

# MICHIGAN FARMER

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### Agricultural.

#### ALONG THE EAST SHORE OF LAKE MICHIGAN.

NO. II.

A peculiar feature of the east shore of Lake Michigan is the many excellent harbors. At the mouths of many of the rivers that empty their waters therein, are inland lakes of sufficient capacity to float the whole fleet of lake vessels. The channels connecting these lake-locked bays with the lake vary from forty rods to a mile in length—are sufficiently deep and capacious to accommodate any of the lake vessels, and are protected by solidly built piers of timber filled with broken stones. Such harbors are found at Saugatuck at the mouth of the Kalamazoo river, at Grand Haven at the mouth of Grand river, at Muskegon, adown whose river of the same name comes millions of pine logs yearly from more than a hundred miles inland, taking its tributary waters from the divide in the northern central part of the State, in the counties of Roscommon, Clare and Osceola.

Across this divide to the east run the streams that make the Tittabawassee, Muskegon, on this side of the State, is what Saginaw is on the other, each having monster mills and being rivals in the lumber trade. White River, Pentwater, Ludington, Manistee and Frankfort have similar harbors; each in a greater or less degree is a lumber town.

North from Muskegon lies the county of Oceana. Here along the whole length of the county the lake banks come to the lake and are covered with fine beech and maple timber. Some very fine farms and commodious buildings are visible, and evidences of thrift and enterprise are manifest, denoting a soil of good capacity for farming and a people who are prosperous from its productions. The county is new and no large towns are found within it. Shelby is the county seat and Pentwater is the only considerable lake port. Here is the northern extremity of the shore line of the C. & W. M. R. R. The depot lies on the south side of the harbor, and a passage across a ferry is the only entrance to the town from the railroad station. Only one train a day reaches the town—at 10:30 P. M., and one train leaves at 5 A. M. I heard it rumored that the line would be abandoned and the iron taken up to some point further south, and swing around east on its destined way to the northward. The crossing at Pentwater would be expensive and the country north to Ludington is again poor, and could furnish no business to the line.

From Pentwater a shore boat leaves every morning and goes as far north as Frankfort, a distance of about 70 miles, and one returns here every evening from the same point. These boats are a great convenience to travellers and to people at the wayside piers along the shore.

At Ludington, in Mason county, the first evidence that the productions of agriculture furnished any part of the transportation business was met. This was a grain elevator on the wharf of the F. & P. M. R. R. The grain passing through this elevator probably formed no part of the production of Mason county, but is suggestive of larger fields and a more generous soil across the lake and beyond. The large propellers numbers 1 and 2, belonging to this railway company, make connections with trains daily and really extend their lines to Milwaukee. North of Ludington lies Big Point Au Sauble, marked to the mariner by a lighthouse. This is a desert of sand hills, and the light-house seems almost as necessary to guide the benighted travellers on shore as upon the water. The inland outlook from Ludington to Manistee is very forbidding indeed. The short stunted pines on sandy

hills which continue inland for about ten or twelve miles, give a dreary promise for daily bread.

About Manistee are some pretensions to farming. South from the city lies a flat table land covered with a thin soil, yet capable of producing a fair yield of grain, and by a liberal use of manure from the city good vegetables are grown. The river banks as we enter are high and the current is strong; lake craft are passing almost constantly. A mile or more from the shore lies Manistee lake; surrounding it are mills and mills. Along the lake are logs enclosed in booms that feed these voracious monsters. At the wharves, vessels are loading with the saved product. Never before in the history of the State was so much lumber being manufactured as now. The climax, if it has not arrived, must soon be reached, and then the decadence of these lumber towns must begin. The streams that now send down their tribute to the mills cannot furnish a perpetual supply. In the absence of lumber will they send down corn and wheat, and fruit and fat cattle? Will ship loads of their products pass down this stream and thence to the sea? The seer who would predict this event must have a stronger faith in the fertility of a soil that feeds the pines than your correspondent. These soils need vegetable food, and long periods of rest from cultivation, before that period so much to be desired shall be reached. In the meantime what will sustain these lumber towns? The thousand men who are employed in the mills and on the booms, with their families, will have left for want of labor, and the wretched hum of the saws will be gone. A rich soil would create new activities and new interests would spring up and flourish. Forbodings are always unpleasant and I forbear further predictions.

#### THE ARMADA FAIR.

On Thursday last we had the pleasure of attending the fair of the Armada Agricultural Society. The grounds are located close to the village, and upon entering them we found a large number of visitors, many of them old friends, who gave us a very hearty welcome. In company with us were Mr. Wm. Jenny, the present efficient and courteous Secretary of State, who is largely interested in agricultural affairs, and Mr. J. C. Sterling, the good-looking young Secretary of the State Agricultural Society. On the grounds we met Mr. Geo. W. Phillips, President of the Society, Mr. J. E. Barringer, the Secretary, Mr. John McKay, Mr. Pettibone and a number of the other officers whose names have escaped us.

The first point of difference noted between this and other fairs we have visited is the entire absence of all sideshows, and the fact that there is neither a race track nor racing. Everything that will tend to attract visitors from the real intent of the Society in holding these fairs is entirely excluded, and the success that has attended it so far shows that an agricultural fair run entirely upon its merits as an exhibition of agricultural products and matters relating thereto can be made successful if properly conducted. The entries numbered over 2,000.

After looking through the halls, containing the exhibits of fruits, grain, vegetables, fancy articles, manufactures, etc., etc., we started for the stock department to see how it was represented. First we came to the fine wool sheep pens, and here the entries were not only numerous but of a high order of merit. The Goyer Bros., of Romeo, showed some eight or ten pens, among which was the celebrated ram "Old Zach," a half interest in which they purchased last spring from Mr. J. M. Thompson of Romeo. He was looking well, and some of his lambs shown with him were very fine ones. They showed a remarkably even lot of ewes, one pen of four bred by E. B. Pond of Vermont, were very heavy woolled, one of them shearing over 17 lbs., this season. They also showed some ewes from the flock of Mr. Ad. Taylor, and three Clark ewes, one sired by Old Moses and two by Beauregard. A ram lamb from "Old Zach" was a beauty.

E. Randall of Richmond, showed 30 head, with his stock ram Pathfinder. He had a number of rams of his own breeding, and some lambs that would make good styled sheep. Three ewes which he had purchased in Vermont were good specimens of the breed, and a pen of three others bred by Mr. Randall of Vermont, had exceptionally fine fleeces of a high quality of wool. Mr. Randall's flock of 50 head averaged 14-15 lbs., the present season, and certainly shows well for a young breed.

Next to him came Mr. Hodges of Richmond, who showed four lambs, three ewes and a buck, all from Pathfinder, which showed his value as a stock ram very clearly. Mr. E. L. Mosher had four pens of Michigan full bloods, and five of grade sheep. His grade ewes were of good style, large square bodied sheep, carrying a very fair quality of wool as well as a good-sized carcass. These grades show how readily a farmer can add to the value of his flock by the use of well bred bucks.

Next to him came E. Perkins & Son, who

showed 16 head ewes and five bucks and buck lambs. This flock is of a different style from any of the others. He aims to breed a large, plain bodied sheep, with a fair amount of wrinkles on the neck and the hind quarters, the wool carrying less oil. As a rule they well covered, the wool of good length and quality. The flock was original ly started with selections from the Lusk flock of New York, and has a great deal of old Addison in it. They showed two fine ram lambs sired by Mr. Taylor's Genesee. In the cattle department the exhibition was not as good as we had looked for, owing probably, to the extremely warm weather, which deterred many from showing. The accommodations for exhibitors in this department are also very meager, something that will undoubtedly be remedied by next year.

The exhibitors in Short horns were John McKay of Romeo, T. J. Shoemaker of Mt. Clemens, and Mr. E. L. Mosher. John McKay showed three two-year old heifers, a yearling heifer, two cows and a bull calf from his herd, the young stock being from his well known Wild Eyes bull. They were a good lot and came in for a good deal of commendation from visitors.

Mr. Shoemaker showed a yearling bull and a heifer, from the De Garmo stock. The bull is 12th Duke of Highland, by Red Jacket 39642, a son of Mr. A. S. Brooks' Red Prince, and out of Naomi, by Lord Barrington 23.

Mr. Mosher showed a yearling bull, a red roan in color, and bred by Mr. John McKay.

In Holsteins, Mr. Wm. A. Rowley of Mt. Clemens, showed a bull, three cows, a heifer, and a bull calf. His bull is one of the finest specimens of the breed in the State, and was greatly admired. Mr. Rowley has two excellent cows of this breed, one being of the Birney importation. He reported a large and increasing demand for this breed.

In Jerseys only two entries were made, both cows. Jerseys were not represented except by a very fine bull, a nice smooth looking animal, owned, we believe, near Mt. Clemens. A number of grade animals were shown, all from Short horn sires.

While cattle were light in numbers the show of horses was both large and good, the draft class taking the precedence. Among those exhibiting in this class were Mr. David Braidwood, who had his Norman-Percheron stallion "Almont," and sixteen of his colts, as fine a lot of young things as we have seen this year credited to one horse. The colts were from mares owned by farmers in the neighborhood and various in character, but the colts were all of the same character, large, well grown, with good backs and quarters, stout flat legs and excellent knee action. A yearling gray filly, exhibited by Mr. Braidwood, stood about 16 1/2 hands high and weighed 1,300 lbs. She was strongly built, well coupled, and was a clean made animal all through. Mr. Braidwood had offered four special premiums to those who could show the best colts of Almont's get, and they were awarded on Friday to the following parties: First, John Muir, Almont; second, A. Lester, Armada; third, F. McElric, Almont. Almont is doing a great deal of good in this section, and will add many dollars to the value of its horse stock.

Mr. Taggart showed a Clyde stallion, and there was another iron-gray horse of mixed breeding, a very handsome animal, but too light for most people.

There was some trotting stock, and one of the stallions, a son of Louis Napoleon, called Reno Defiance, was a handsome animal. His owner lives at Mt. Clemens.

In hogs the exhibition was light in numbers, but Mr. Wm. A. Rowley showed a very handsome Berkshire boar and sow, imported stock, and a fine litter of young pigs. They are as good as the best. In Suffolk too alleged specimens were shown, which had all the appearance of wild hogs, and as it took some dozen men and boys and a great deal of strategy to get one of them into the pens, we think

they were as wild as they looked. Calling them Suffolks is an excellent joke after seeing a nice smooth, plump, well behaved hog such as the Suffolk always is.

The display of agricultural implements and machinery was very good, a full line of reapers and mowers, harrows, rollers, grain drills, horse powers, harvesters, etc., being shown. In this department the Currier Bros., of Almont, made a handsome display of implements of their own manufacture, such as plows, harrows, corn-shellers land rollers, etc. It was very creditable indeed. The Casaday sulky plow was shown with others, and when we saw it, it was adorned with a first premium card. The Morton Valve Co., of Romeo, showed a horse power attached to a feed cutter, that got away with corn stalks in good shape. Messrs. N. W. & W. Gray, of Romeo, showed a new hand corn-planter that we predict will find a large sale among corn growers. It works on an entirely new principle, and appears to be all that its manufacturers claim for it. The construction of the planter insures it against clogging, missing to deposit the seed. It is also supplied with an attachment for planting pumpkin seeds, so arranged that the seed is deposited in every fourth hill. We heard a couple of farmers who had used them last season say they were the best planters they had ever tried.

We saw a few nice samples of wheat and barley, two of the latter being very good. The white wheats exhibited were Clawson and Diehl, and the reds the Fultz, Lancaster and Kentucky Red. Among the visitors we met were Mr. McKay, Sr., Mr. A. H. Canfield, of Mt. Clemens, Mr. Gavin Hamilton, Mr. C. Parth, Mr. J. Thompson, Mr. Reed, the Messrs. Ferguson, Robt. McKay, Jr., and a large number of others who had many pleasant words to say for the FARMER.

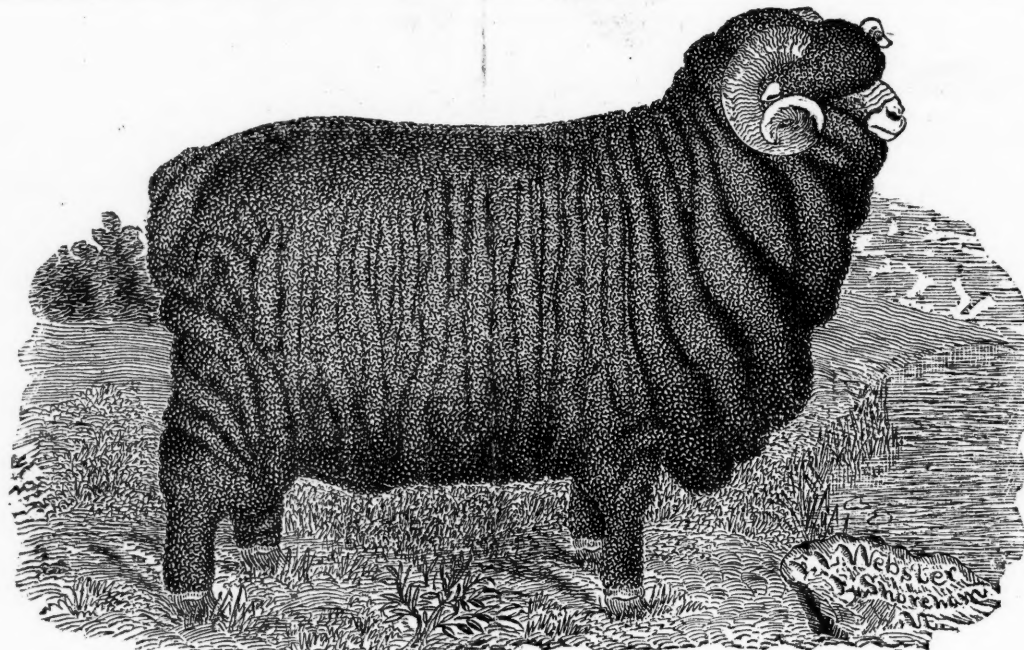
To the officers of the Society we are under obligations for many courtesies, and we wish them every success in their endeavors to make this fair a true exponent of the agricultural interests of this section.

#### THE LANSING FAIR.

The Fair of the Central Michigan Agricultural Society at Lansing last week, was a good exposition of the stock and agricultural products of the counties which go to form this association. The attendance was beyond the expectations of nearly everybody, and financially the results were very encouraging to the management. It is said that after paying all expenses, over \$2,000 will be left to apply on the debt of the Society.

Arriving on the grounds on Wednesday we found a very fair crowd during the afternoon. On Thursday, however, the crowd was very large, filling the grounds, and giving them a very lively appearance. We found Mr. L. K. Beach of Howell, performing the duties of Marshal, and he did it in a very acceptable manner, while our old friend E. W. Hardy was superintendent of the sheep department, and R. B. Caruss, of St. Johns, of cattle. The show of horses was good both in numbers and quality, including draft, roaster and trotting stock. Cattle were also well represented; Short horns by such herds as those of Wm. Ball, of Hamburg, Amos F. Wood of Mason, J. M. Turner, of Lansing, and Mr. R. H. Holmes. Jerseys were represented by the fine herd of W. J. G. Dean, Ayreshires by J. M. Turner of Lansing; Galloways by R. B. Caruss of St. Johns and John Bush of Lansing; Holsteins by the fine herd of W. K. Sexton of Howell, and Devons by that of H. L. Carrier. These were all good specimens of the various breeds represented, and in this respect their Fair was a great educator of the thousands who visited it.

In sheep, while the number was not so large as last year, there was some very fine stock in the various classes. Among the exhibitors of Merinos were the Barnes Bros. of Byron, E. Kellogg, of Oceola Center, H. L. Carrier, of Brookfield, H



THOROUGHbred MERINO RAM LA NEGROS,

Bred and Owned by E. J. & E. W. Hardy, Oceola, Livingston Co., Mich. Sired by Maximilian 285, out of a Ewe of their own breeding sired by Hardy's Little Wrinkly. Maximilian was by Fremont Jr., 215, out of a Stickney ewe.

Doane, of Green Oak, and Wm. Ball, of Hamburg. In Shropshires Wesley J. Garlock, of Howell, had a fine lot and carried off five firsts and one second premium on them. Devillo Hubbard had 22 head of the lot of Shropshires recently imported by him and Mr. Conly. They are as handsome a lot of sheep as ever exhibited anywhere, and were generally admired.

Swine were not shown in as large numbers as we looked for, but D. F. Vickery, of Charlotte, James Cole, of Lansing, and the Barnes Bros. showed a nice lot of stock.

In machinery the ground allotted was completely covered, and was an attractive point for visitors. The various halls were fairly well filled, but the show of fruits was not up to some former ones, especially in apples. In agricultural products there was room for improvement also, farmers not taking sufficient interest in this department to exhibit as largely as they ought. The racing was a very attractive feature to visitors, and the grand stands were filled in the afternoons to witness the speed trials. The management of the fair was good in every particular, except that the omnipresent side show was very conspicuous.

#### LIVE STOCK SWINDLERS.

A writer in a Southern live stock journal, who has evidently suffered from the actions of speculative peddlers of breeding stock, protests against the harm they have done to the live stock interests, and makes some suggestions as to how farmers and stockmen should act in regard to them. He asserts that these peddlers, who are generally unknown as breeders, pick the weeds from the flocks and herds of the North, and pa'm them off as animals of high breeding and great worth upon unsuspecting men who wish to improve their live stock, but whose limited opportunities for becoming acquainted with really good animals make them easy victims. This is especially the case where Jerseys or other dairy cattle are concerned, since there is less in their outward appearance than in that of beef breeds to indicate to the unskilled their value as breeders. It cannot be denied that many, perhaps most, of these speculators in breeding stock are tricky and dishonest. They rob those who buy of them, and sometimes those who sell to them. They are an utterly useless evil; they bring discredit upon most meritorious breeds, and loss upon honorable breeders, since, by their lies about the value of the culs they wish to sell for breeding stock, they create in the buyer hopes which can never be realized through the use of any but the best animals, and are almost certainly doomed to disappointment.

Unfortunately, these scoundrels are usually shrewd enough to keep within the limits of the law, so that there is little likelihood of proper punishment following their swindling deeds, for they are far from their victims long before the latter become aware of the impositions practiced. With the enterprise not infrequently shown by rascals, these scoundrels are found acting as pioneers in fields which but for them would give to honorable breeders fairly lucrative patronage. A few years ago they were flooding Kansas with "Merino" sheep, which they represented of the purest breeding, but which were but ordinary grades, picked up on the farms of Michigan, Ohio, and States farther East. There is reason for thinking that this work is now going on in Texas. It is easy to fit a false pedigree to sheep or swine, and to get far from the reach of the outraged buyer before the swindle can be detected. The scoundrels depend largely for immunity upon the fact that most of their victims will accept as genuine the animals and the pedigree they furnish, and never make an effort to verify their truth.

There is one simple remedy for this state of affairs. It is to never buy an animal from a traveling speculator. Honorable breeders having a habitation and a name

well known to the public can easily be found by any one, and, upon receiving from the buyer a description of what he wants, or, better still, a description of the stock already in the herd or flock of the buyer, or of the conditions under which the animals wanted are to be used, they will either send such an animal or animals as will best serve the purpose or admit their inability to do so. The prices may sometimes seem high, but when the buyer considers that if any animal sent upon an order fails to answer the description given in every particular it can be returned to the breeder, without cost to the intending purchaser, it will be seen that prices much higher than those asked by irresponsible strangers can well be afforded.

#### OAKLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Thirty-fourth Annual Fair of the Society.

The 34th annual fair of the Oakland County Agricultural Society opened at Pontiac on Monday last under very favorable auspices, and proved a very successful exhibition. The principal feature was undoubtedly the show of stock, which in the classes of horses, cattle and sheep was unusually large. In horses there were 200 entries, including draft, roaster, trotting and thoroughbreds. In the draft classes Mr. A. DeGarmo, N. J. Ellis, I. K. Grow and Sowersby & Trowbridge were the principal exhibitors of Percherons. The latter showed two stallions and six other head. I. K. Grow and Mr. DeGarmo showed young stock from the Norman-Percheron stallion Success, Jr., and Mr. Ellis the Norman-Percheron stallion Ingomar. Mr. R. A. Remick, of Clarkston, showed two fine stallions, two brood mares and colts, a very handsome pair of carriage mares weighing 2,400 lbs., and three other mares, two, three and four years old respectively.

In the trotting and roadster class Mr. A. B. Donelson showed his two fine stallions, Goldenbow and Golden Arrow, full brothers, and three other stallions sired by Goldenbow. Besides these he had two brood mares and colts, and three or four others. Dr. Galbraith had two stallions, one by the noted Blue Bull, and the other a full brother to Jerome Eddy. He had also two brood mares and some yearling colts. Mr. R. Summers had a fine Cleveland Bay stallion on exhibition. He weighed 1,140 pounds, a deep rich bay in color and was greatly admired.

In the cattle department there were 117 entries, consisting of 30 Short horns, 10 Devons, 23 Holsteins, 8 Herefords, 4 Jerseys and Guernseys. 25 grades and some working oxen and fat cattle. The exhibitors of Short horns were Messrs. John Lessiter, A. Hosmer, and Wm. Graham. In Holsteins Phelps & Seelye and George Seelye; Herefords, Edwin Phelps; Devons, A. J. Burrows; Guernseys, C. H. Gibbs; Ayreshires, C. S. Bartlett. In herds for breeding purposes five entries were made, namely, A. Hosmer, John Lessiter, Phelps & Seelye, A. J. Burrows and Edwin Phelps.

Sheep made a good show, probably 250 head being present. They were divided into the following classes. Thoroughbred American Merinos, 22; American Merinos ineligible to registry, 42; Long Wools, 17; Middle Wools, 80; fat sheep, 2. The principal exhibitors of Merinos were A. Diehl, G. Gates, J. R. Wixom, Wm. Loomis and E. Voorheis. In long wools, Mrs. Ann Newton showed 24 head of very fine ones, besides three pens of middle wools and a ram. The others exhibiting in these classes were Messrs. John Lessiter, who had some of his fine flock of Southdowns, Thos. Whitfield, C. H. Gibbs, M. J. Spencer, H. J. Rundel, J. F. Rundel and G. Longmair.

The show of swine was very light, there being only nine entries. What the breeders of Oakland County were doing we cannot imagine, as there are plenty of fine Berkshires, Suffolks, Poland Chinas and small Yorkshires that should have made an appearance. The principal exhibitors were Wm. Graham, F. Thompson, W. F. Kelly, J. C. Kimball, H. J. Rundel, J. A. Ganley and C. E. Porter.

Poultry was exhibited in large numbers, nearly every variety being represented, from the little game bantam to the handsome bronze turkey.

The show of grains and vegetables was a failure, and the society should take steps to remedy this lack of interest in these important departments.

Floral Hall was fairly well filled, but could have been improved upon. We have seen a better show in the same hall. There was a fair show of implements and machinery by the leading manufacturers, including threshers, mowers, and reapers, wind-mills, plows, harrows, grain drills, etc., etc. We noticed a clover, grain and fertilizer drill on the ground, manufactured by Messrs. Keith & Harger, of Pontiac, that looked like a good one. Its manufacturers claim it will drill in clover seed in the spring on winter grain without tearing it up, and save half the seed while insuring its growth, and that it will sow all kinds of grain in a very satisfactory manner.

As to attendance this fair was probably

the most successful yet held by the Society, and will place it on a sound financial basis. The officers were very attentive and efficient.

#### THE ANGORA GOAT.

The past week Mr. Giles B. Stebbins, of this city, gave us a call and left some specimens of the wool or properly speaking mohair, of the Angora goat, sheared from the flock of Col. Richard Peters, near Atlanta, Ga. It is a beautiful article, very fine and glossy, with a staple running from ten to twelve inches in length. Mr. Stebbins said it was the opinion of those who had given the matter attention, that a large extent of the territory of New Mexico, Arizona and adjacent States, could be utilized in raising flocks of the Angora goat, and that it was being tested in a practical manner. An organization, known as the Tingle Manufacturing Company, of Seymour, Conn., has erected a mill especially for the manufacture of mohair goods, such as imitation seal skins for robes, trimmings and cloakings, plushes for upholstery purposes, etc., etc. So far the new industry has been quite successful, orders being always ahead of what their facilities enable them to supply. They consume 5,000 lbs. of mohair weekly, and are adding to their machinery so that the consumption will be doubled.

Mr. John L. Hayes, of Boston, so well known in connection with the woolen manufacturing interest, recently paid a visit to Seymour to inspect this new industry, and has published a work on the Angora goat in which he relates what he saw there, and his opinion of what can be accomplished in the future. From it we take the following extracts as of general interest:

"The Seymour manufacturers already perceive the inconveniences of depending upon importation from abroad of their mohair. They say that it would be desirable to order their supply at New York or Boston, and have it in their mill the next day, instead of waiting weeks for a supply from Bradford. Besides, in ordering from abroad they can be almost certain that the choicest lots have been previously secured by the Bradford manufacturers. Moreover, they have already become convinced of the superiority of American mohair to the imported mohair of the same grade.

"I took special pains to inform myself upon this point, so interesting to American growers, by personal observation and inquiries independently of proprietors and superintendents, among the sorters, spinners and combers. I will give in some detail the results of my own observations. "I first observed in the store-house several bales of mohair which constituted the whole of this year's clip from Col. Richard Peters' thoroughbred flock, and was assured on all hands that no lot of mohair, in length of staple, fineness, lustre, and uniformity, comparable to it had ever come into the establishment. This settled the question as to American thoroughbreds.

"I learned that a lot of about two thousand one hundred pounds of mohair, brought from San Francisco (I have since learned that it was grown in Oregon), which had remained in New York for a year without a purchaser, had just been purchased and brought to the establishment. This mohair must have been the product of grade flocks, as there are not thoroughbreds enough on the Pacific coast to have produced that quantity. I saw the fleeces from this lot upon the sorter's table. He held the shoulders, the choicest part, of several of the fleeces up to show me the length, glossiness, curl, and uniformity of the fleece, and I did not need his assertion to convince me of its admirable quality. I then saw mohair from the same lot on the comb. (Lister's, invariably used.) The fibre was fourteen inches in length, therefore economical to comb, and the product of noils was but 16 to 18 per cent. I was assured by the workmen that the quality of this mohair was superior to that of an imported article which I saw, costing here 50 cents per pound, the loss on which in noils was besides 24 per cent.

"Leaving this particular lot of mohair, I was struck by the observations of an intelligent spinner (Edward Thorp by name) brought up at Bradford, in the mohair business. Without any leading question on my part, he observed and I carefully put down his exact words in my note-book at the time: "The American mohair is better than any brought from abroad. It is smoother, makes a smoother thread, and runs the spindles faster. Ours has a finer fibre. It is silkier and softer, and I can pick out the cloth made from it without looking." These observations, it must be remembered, apply to our grade mohair. The spinner could have had no extensive experience with any other domestic fibre. I can conceive of no reason for this alleged superiority, except the moral reason, which undoubtedly gives a marked excellence to American wools,—the more regular feed and greater care given by our more intelligent and conscientious growers. Upon the whole, I could desire nothing more satisfactory in regard to the quality of the domestic fibre, and the certainty of a home market, in all that is likely to be produced for some years to come, than the results of my personal observations at this establishment."



## The Farm.

## OUR FRENCH LETTER.

The Phylloxera—Its Ravages—Remedies Employed Against It—Residue of Wine Presses as Food for Stock—Miscellaneous Items.

Paris, Sept. 28, 1893.

The extent of vineyards in France is four and a half million acres; one quarter of this area is invaded by the phylloxera, and the new ravages of the insect are estimated at the rate of 200,000 acres annually. Three official remedies are recognized; sulpho-carbonate of potassium and sulphate of carbon; submersion; and American stock for grafting on the affected vines. To these must be added a relatively high manuring. It has been proved that purely nitrogenous manures, as wool clippings, horn parings, dried blood, oil cakes, etc., develop the vine at the expense of the fruit; but farm yard manure, or a composition of potash salts, soluble phosphates, and a proportionate dose of azoteous matters, have the opposite effect. A high authority, M. Romnier, recommends a new and cheap insecticide—bi-sulpho-carbonate; he also recommends the summer flooding of vineyards. He doubts the efficacy of autumnal irrigations, because at that period the bug is prepared for its hibernation; it is encased in a kind of oak waterproof, and has a sufficient provision of air to guard against being drowned. Even M. Facon, to make the submersion process more certain, has had to prolong the floodings to 45 consecutive days. Some persons of late dissolve the insecticide in the water intended for irrigating the vines.

In several parts of France, and notably in the southern wine-making districts, the residue of the grapes—after being pressed or distilled—is conserved in cement cisterns for cattle feeding; the layers, of twelve inches, are dusted with salt, the whole when pressed down being covered with paddled clay; occasionally the latter is represented by a thin sheet of weak brine. Some people take the stalks out of the residuum, as the mass then keeps better. Stock relish the feed from its alcoholic flavor, and it is given similarly as beef pulp. In the district of Mont-d'Or, famous for its cheese, prepared from sheep's milk, the sheep are housed all the year round; in summer, on the leaves of the vine, and in winter on the residue of the wine presses. In Germany, brewers' grains are similarly preserved as the grape residue, save that the cistern has a cover battened down on the grains, being itself covered by a layer of water 8 inches deep.

The beet crop has been attacked by the same fungus this year as in 1893; it is a species of mushroom that settles on the leaves, producing a kind of rust. In some cases all the leaves have been destroyed, in others, new leaves had succeeded; on analyzing the root, it was found to have suffered to the extent of three per cent in richness as compared with healthy roots.

Water-distributing flexible pipes are generally lengthened or joined, by the addition of screwing together. M. Beaume simply arranges that one end of the pipe passes into that of the other, this union being secured by a lever, which locks; an india rubber ring prevents all leakage.

French farmers are becoming also manufacturers; thus the distillation of molasses, of maize, and of beet, has been improved by employing the electrolyser, which sends an electric current into the mass, that decomposes the water; the liberated oxygen then displays an affinity for foreign products of objectionable taste, and burning them. It is thus that beet brandy has been debarbarized of its bad flavor, the first shot distillation yields 85 per cent. An electrolyser will produce 4,000 gallons of brandy in 24 hours.

Generally, the harvest is regarded as satisfactory; the number of sheaves is heavy, but when threshing commences, the quality of the grain will be better estimated. France, and perhaps the Continent, will not have to import any grain this year. The beet promises well; forage, fair.

A farmer writes that he has effectually got rid of couch-grass by cultivating buckwheat.

The system of co-operation is rapidly extending among farmers, for the purchase of seeds, manures and implements of the first quality; the members of the society bind themselves individually to guarantee the payment of all orders given.

**Mode of Seeding to Wheat.**

A New York farmer writes to the *American Cultivator* the following on the culture of wheat, which is apropos to the season:

"The common mistake in sowing wheat in putting in the seed too deeply. The drill is often recommended because it will deposit the grain at a more nearly uniform depth than can be obtained by broadcast seeding on a rough surface. If, however, the ground has been tilled so as to make a mellow seed bed, this uniform depth will usually be too deep unless the roller precedes the drill and the drill teeth are set back so as not to dig too deeply. In the old days when broadcast sowing was the rule, the best crops were those where the wheat was sown and rain fell so quickly that it could not be thoroughly harrowed in. My father used to tell of one field which was never harrowed. It was sown just before the equinoctial storm. By the time the soil was dry enough to harrow the wheat was up, and it was then thought that harrowing would destroy the young plants. The roller was run over the field in the spring to smooth the surface, and this was all the cultivation the crop received. The wheat yielded at the rate of forty bushels per acre, without phosphate or manure of any kind. But the soil was completely new and unexhausted.

"It is an old tradition among farmers that the rougher the surface of a wheat field at the beginning of winter, the better the chance for escape from winter killing. Rolling after drilling or sowing I consider a mistake. The compactness of the soil needed for wheat is beneath, and not on

the surface. The rough places will be beaten and washed down by rains, snow and frost fast enough, and if any of the wheat plants are lifted up, the washed earth will cover the exposed root. For this purpose having the wheat plants in depressed drills is undoubtedly an advantage, as the slight ridges of earth on either side are some protection, both from winds and upheaval by frost. But wherever possible the ground should be compacted, so that the drill will not deposit the seed deeply. This was one trouble last fall when wheat was sown after the great drought, before rain came to compact the soil. The grain drilled before the heavy rain came up poorly and grew feebly through the fall, while that sown after the rain made a very vigorous growth and withstood the winter well.

"Wheat is usually sown more thickly than is advantageous or profitable. This is especially true if the grain is put in with a drill, the plants crowding each other in the rows, as they must where two bushels or more per acre is the amount sown. Farmers like to have a good growth, and see the ground well covered in the fall. To secure these results they seed thickly, and a mass of sickly, stunted plants is the result. This thick seeding is not a preventive of winter killing, but the reverse. A single plant in rich soil and with plenty of room to spread will by its foliage protect itself in a measure; but a mass of plants all feeble, and each with sparse foliage, cannot supply the needed protection. It is often said that wheat cannot be too thick on the ground at harvest, though even this rule has its exceptions. Thin seeding will usually produce a better stand at harvest than where a larger quantity has been sown per acre. Much depends on the richness of the soil, the more fertile requiring not exceeding one bushel to five pecks per acre. If the land is so poor that more than a bushel and a half per acre seems to be needed, the better way is to sow rye, or save it for oats or barley in the spring.

"The experiment has sometimes been tried of cross drilling wheat, putting in a bushel or less quantity per acre each way with the drill. One difficulty with this is that the first seeding is covered too deeply, as the cross drilling piles the soil in ridges over the seed. Little of the first seeding survives the winter, unless the season is very favorable, and if it does the seeding is apt to be too thick. Where a bushel is sown each way the last seeding is alone sufficient on good soil to make a crop, but it would undoubtedly be better if the growth in the fall were not hampered by too many plants. A better way, where it is desired to apply more than 300 pounds of fertilizers per acre, is to divide and drill one way with fertilizer, without seeding, and then cross drill with both seed and fertilizer. In this way the manure is diffused more evenly through the soil, while enough is placed in contact with the seed to give the young plant a vigorous start. It is a curious fact that where wheat is drilled in alternate strips, with and without fertilizer, the places where no manure is applied are not helped by the phosphate drilled in only six or seven inches distant. This would indicate that the roots do not go far in search of food, or it may be that the start given to the fertilized rows enables them to occupy their own soil, and perhaps also to reach over into the rows nearest them. This may account for the belief of many farmers that commercial fertilizers are absolutely injurious to the unfertilized strips beside them. I have long since given up intentionally experimenting with phosphate on wheat by leaving strips unfertilized through the field, for I find the loss heavier than I can afford. There will at times accidentally be a strip left unfertilized, but I am to distribute it as evenly as possible, so that no plant shall fall to have a feeding of the kind of food it needs within reach from the very first.

"The time of sowing is much less important than the condition of the soil as to compactness and fertility. Twenty-five years ago we got in the habit of sowing wheat early so as to encourage early heading the subsequent season and to escape the wheat midge. The latter pest is now rarely injurious, and the Hessian fly, which is bred in the earliest sown wheat, is now more destructive than the midge. It may sometimes be good policy to sow land of only moderate fertility early, in order to secure a good fall growth; but it is much better to manure more heavily and sow later. In the early history of western New York wheat on new lands was often sown so late that it only came up during warm spells in the winter. With the ground frozen or covered by snow wheat would lie just under the surface without injury. When it came up the plants were larger, on the principle that the small plant has always less root in proportion to its root than a large one. On the very driest and richest soils very late sowing is the best for securing heavy yields of wheat."

**A Native Dakota Grass.**

A letter from DeSmet, Dakota, received by the Elmira Farmers' Club, describes the "needle grass" indigenous to the prairie land:

"Needle grass" is the first to start in spring, and first to ripen and shed seed. It is the only annoyance that grows on the native prairie. It very closely resembles barley in appearance while growing. The points of seed are about as hard and sharp as a needle. It grows to about the same height as barley. To persons about the height of sheep and lambs. It is especially bad for sheep and lambs. The seeds get into the short wool about the middle of July, when ripe, and work into the body. Sheep were killed last fall and seed needles found in the liver, lungs and other parts of the body. They sometimes get into the flesh of the mouth and stomach and cause soreness. Where sheep roam at will, they have to be caught and examined and needles removed. Farmers have learned to associate several hundred sheep and herd them about four weeks on a section that has a fire-break of a few furrows around, and not allowed to burn

over till into June, when this needle grass is all destroyed, and a blue joint grass comes in, in abundance, making plenty of the best of feed, tender and fresh. By keeping the fires of autumn and early spring off by means of the fire-break, this grass is the earliest to start, when it is about heading in June, by firing the old dry grass of last year it is completely destroyed for the year, but will grow the next year as before, and must be burned again. In this way sheep can be herded on clean land a month or more, and then allowed to roam over any of the prairie."

## Top-Dressing in Autumn.

The recommendation we see in many quarters to top-dress grass-lands in autumn we cannot wholly endorse. While we have no doubt of the efficacy of this suggestion, in a general sense, and have advocated it we think under certain conditions, some grass lands would be more benefited if the application were made early in the spring. In fields where the ground has a tendency to heave, throwing up the grass and exposing the roots to the direct action of the frost, autumn top-dressing, which will protect the ground, is much to be preferred, and the application can be made either with the aftermath, straw or manure, as the condition of the soil may seem to require. But if the ground is not liable to heave, a coat of manure as early in the spring as it can be applied, not lumpy, and spread uniformly, will secure a heavier crop of grass. There need be no fear of the manure interfering with the mowing of the crop or the making of the hay, inasmuch as we have found that the top dressing is soon beaten down by the rains and is quite out of reach of the operations of harvesting by the time that period arrives. We are not merely satisfied of the correctness of this view from our own experience, but from that of numerous farmers whose opinions on all subject of practical farming can at all times be relied upon.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

## The Value of Sods.

The Indiana Farmer says: "Sods are the cream of the soil, containing the very elements of plant food that make soil so productive.

"When properly rotted this material makes one of the best fertilizers to be found for trees, vines, vegetables and cereals, and is one of the most readily and cheaply obtained fertilizers in use. Sods may be gathered from the fence corners of tilled fields, gathered from the surface after plowing and harrowing sward land, and in many places from the roadside when the highway is undergoing repairs.

"To utilize sods and secure from them their best fertilizing effects, they should be gathered and piled up in some out-of-the-way place, downward, and the whole covered with ashes or chip dust, or both, to keep the grass from growing. A year or two will be required for them to thoroughly decay, unless cut down and shovelled over after laying long enough for the grass to be entirely killed out. Water should be applied at intervals sufficient to keep the pile moist and prevent a dry mouldy rot. The best way to provide for the wetting down is to leave the top cupping and apply the water abundantly there in a dry time. To get such a lot of good material in the best shape for applying to crops, we would advise mixing it with good, well rotted, barnyard manure. Say about two loads of it to one of the manure, then spread it broadcast on grass and crops of small grain. For corn or vegetables, apply it in the hills or drills."

## Agricultural Items.

At the New Jersey State Fair the Jerseys led the exhibition in the cattle department. Over 100 animals were shown.

The Texas Wool Grower expresses the opinion that a ram shearing 35 pounds in Vermont would probably shrink to 35 lbs. in Texas in three years.

WISCONSIN has over 200 cheese factories and creameries, and manufactures 33,000 lbs. of butter, and over 2,000,000 pounds of cheese annually.

At the Denver Exposition the Colorado Agricultural College makes an exhibit of over 700 varieties of grass and grain, including 150 varieties of spring wheat and 30 of winter sorts.

In feeding sweet milk to pigs, trials made at the Wisconsin Experiment Farm showed that on an average four pounds of corn meal were equal to 20 pounds of sweet skim milk, or one pound of meal equal to five of milk, if fed separately.

A New England cyclone struck the fair grounds of the New Hampshire Agricultural Society on the second day, and prostrated the tents in which the exhibition was held. Rain fell in torrents on the third day, soaking everything, and the grounds were deserted.

THERE is a project on foot for the manufacture of sugar from the refuse of cheese factories, the result being, after refining like cane sugar, a white, lively sugar in four-sided crystals without sweetness. It is sugar of milk, used in certain medical formulas, and will not, unlike, if it can be manufactured cheap enough, be used for adulterative purposes.

A MEMBER of the Elmira Farmers' Club says of orchard grass that no other grass is so sure to grow from seedling, and none will beaker the tramp of feet better. No kind starts quicker in spring and continues later in fall, and none springs up more rapidly after grazing. Another member examined a patch during the late intense drought, which was green and fresh, while timothy adjoining was dried as if dead.

In the tenth annual report of the Wisconsin State Dairyman's Association is given the result of some trials made by Prof. W. A. Henry in feeding corn smut to cows. One strong and healthy animal continued to eat daily several pounds with no apparent harm for 12 days, but afterwards died suddenly. Another and feebler cow ate two or three pounds a day with little apparent injury. Prof. H.'s conclusion is that cows which eat smut in large quantities are liable to die suddenly without warning, although it is not

an active poison in moderate quantities.

The English employ some queer terms in their sheep husbandry. When an Englishman speaks of a "hogget" he means a wether in his second year; a "ewe-lodgy" is a young ewe that has never been shorn; a "gimmer" is a ewe once sheared; a "two-shear-ewe" is one in her second shearing year; a "three-shear-ewe" is one in her third shearing year, etc.; keeping a "running" ewe stock means the practice of buying ewe lambs to keep up the flock, and selling with all the produce; a "flying" ewe stock is one kept where the ewes are bought annually and sold after they have brought a lamb.

BEANS heat easily, and are greatly damaged by heating. Consequently they should be thoroughly dry when put away. For this purpose have them thoroughly dry before preserving, and if this is done the whole problem of preserving is solved. They should be permitted to stand until frost comes, but not later, even if they are fully grown, for if they are carefully cured beans may be cured when quite green. If they are intended for the market all the defective beans should be picked out. Running them through a fanning mill will clean them pretty thoroughly, but there will likely remain some discolored beans, and these hurt the sale.

## A Strong Endorsement.

TOLEDO, O., July 27, 1891.

GENTLEMEN.—Having made use of your valuable Pile remedy, I can recommend it as the best I ever used; have found almost entire relief from using it four times. Hoping others will try it with the same success, I am yours very truly, H. M. PILEY, No. 50 Summit St.

## The Poultry Yard.

## Management of Fowls.

Failures in the management of poultry arise chiefly from one of two causes—too much care or too little care. Some poultry fanciers who keep high priced fowls contrive in one way and another to kill most of them by kindness. The birds are kept in ornamental palaces and treated like songsters bred in parlors. The buildings are often so tight and warm that the inmates suffer for want of pure air. They are allowed little exercise, and, as a consequence, they are lacking in vitality. They become sick on the slightest exposure, and are then dosed like feeble infants. They are subject to all kinds of diseases and ailments. They lead an artificial life, and its continuance depends on fortuitous circumstances. They produce but few eggs, and these are considered as far too valuable to eat. They are often unfertile, so they are of no value for raising chickens. Fowls with exceedingly long pedigrees, which are raised in buildings fitted up with all the modern improvements and fed on dainties, are chiefly valuable for exhibiting at fairs. By expending \$25 for a fancy coop, expensiveness and care during an exhibition, a breeder may sometimes realize a fifth of that amount in the form of a prize. The chances are, however, that he will simply learn that his rooster is somewhere deficient in the scale of points adopted at some national or international convention of poultry fanciers. It is possible that some of his tail feathers is a "little off" in color, or that one of the notches in his comb is not sufficiently well-marked. At any rate he is "not quite up to standard" according to the highest acknowledged authority in poultry science.

Other persons keep quite a different kind of fowls and devote scarcely any care or attention to them. No attempt is made to improve the old barn-yard strain of fowls, or even to infuse new blood into it. They practice "breeding in-and-in" till the stock "runs out." If the birds have any protection at all they find it under the barn and out-buildings or on the sides of straw stacks. They have a chance to roost in the branches of shade trees, on the tops of buildings, or the upper rail of fences. Chickens that have not the ability to reach high elevations, are obliged to find a resting place on the ground, where their rest is quite likely to be disturbed by predatory animals and birds. Possibly a few of the fittest survive, but if they do their lives are prolonged in consequence of their ability to contend with their enemies and to endure almost any amount of hunger and exposure. Their only means of obtaining food is that which wild fowls possess.

As they have poorer means of locomotion they have fewer opportunities to procure proper food. They are allowed to range at large during the winter when there is no vegetation to damage, and when there is little they can pick up to eat. During the time there are insects, fruits, vegetables and grain to eat they are kept penned up. They are then fed raw corn, and are allowed a few bits of gravel, which are supposed to serve an excellent purpose in aiding digestion and improving the appetite. Occasionally some water is placed in the yard in a tin pan, from which it soon evaporates, or in which it becomes so warm and impure that no living thing will taste it after the first trial. Persons who keep fowls in this way during the summer think snow is an excellent substitute for water during the winter, and allow their birds to eat of it if they desire. These persons, like those first named, find poultry raising unprofitable.

## Cayuga Ducks.

A correspondent of the *Poultry Monthly* thus describes this breed:

"This popular variety of ducks originated on Cayuga Lake, from whence its name, and was originally a wild duck frequenting this lake. Many years ago they were numerous and were captured and domesticated, or by a cross of the wild with the common duck the present duck was produced. It ranks in size with either the Rouen or Aylesbury, and in the juiciness and richness of its flesh partakes of that peculiar game flavor which distinguishes the Canvas Back. The plumage of the duck should be a jet glossy black, the feathers of the drake having a lustrous greenish hue in the sunshine which gives

him a peculiarly rich appearance; the head should be small, neat and slender, the bill broad, rather short, dark horn color or black, neck medium, breast full and plump, wings long and carried well up, legs dark or slate color, plumage jet glossy black throughout, the neck of the drake being of a brilliant greenish hue; they are hardy and of a good size and for the table are superior to other ducks, the flesh being dark and high flavored. If well fed they become fat; indeed, they can be made so fat that they cannot raise themselves from the ground by their wings. The Cayugas are very quiet in their habits; they are rarely able to raise from the ground, and a fence two feet high will turn them; they are not disposed to wander from home and they generally commence laying about the first of April and lay from fifty to seventy eggs before wishing to sit, which they do well, but are careless mothers; they are growing more and more in public favor, and for all the desirable qualities to be sought in rearing ducks the Cayugas have no superior; they are fast winning recognition all over the country, and the demand for them and their eggs exceeds the present ability of the breeders to supply."

SILVER CREEK, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1880.

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## Horticultural.

## HOUSE PLANTS.

It is at about this season of the year that the average woman sets out to provide her stock of house plants. "Something bright and pleasant for the bleak days of winter," she says, as she brings out her store of terra cotta colored pots, inwardly resolving to have her new gloves an exact match for them, and forthwith begins to transplant into six-inch pots the geraniums, coleus, begonias, roses and fuchsias which have grown luxuriantly and untrimmed in the garden all summer. The shovel goes under them and up they come, leaving behind the tender fibres and spongy roots, which are, we may say, the mouths of the plant, through which it takes its sustenance, and the tough old roots which stand the tug are crowded down into their new and narrow quarters. A few of the most unmanageable branches are lopped off, a copious watering revives the maltreated plant, and it lives for a few weeks upon its own vitality. Then it begins to languish, and to put on a limp and aesthetic air, its foliage becomes a symphony in yellow and brown after Burne-Jones, and the disgusted woman complains, as she flings the bare branches upon the ash heap, that she "never has any luck with house plants." Her slips, started in October to make "some nice young plants for winter blooming," six-inch branches with their full complement of foliage, stuck into dumb pots with faith not justified by works, follow in the wake of the others: "My slips never root" etc.

Now any one at all conversant with the growth of plants ought to know that a root pruning must be followed by a corresponding reduction in foliage, to "balance" the plant, as it were. So, when your amateur gardener lifts her plants, thereby inflicting an involuntary but severe root-pruning, severe, because as before remarked, the tender roots left behind are the feeders of the plant—and neglects to shorten in the branches, she leaves a diminished root power to supply the demands of superabundant foliage, and possibly flower buds, which she "hates to cut off," they will blossom so soon, and the plant dies as a natural consequence. So with the slips, she spares the leaves when there are no roots to feed them, and they drop as inevitably as from a cut branch put in water.

These being some of the mistakes, let us consider what ought to be done to secure good, thrifty plants for winter blooming. "Plants destined for winter should be set aside for that purpose in the early summer. Keep them in a shady spot out of doors; on the north side of the house, for instance, water moderately, and pick off remorselessly every bud that forms. It is useless to expect a plant which has been in blossom all summer to continue it all winter. Every plant must have its season of rest, and it is by giving this time of quiescence in summer that we secure free bloom in winter. Through the summer months these reserve plants are developing roots while making little growth externally; they are "getting a good stand," as gardeners say. Some varieties of plants will not bloom freely until they become "root bound," that is, until the pot is so full of roots that the energies of the plant must seek another outlet, which they find in blossom buds. When frosty nights come, remove to a cool room and accustom them gradually to sun and fire heat. Just here we may remark that our living rooms are generally too warm for plants to be healthy; and the cooler the room, the purer the air, and freer from dust, the more luxuriant will be the plants. Water understandingly: do not give a dash of water every day, either too much, so that the soil becomes sodden and sour, or not enough, so that only the surface is dampened, but with reference to the habit. Once a week set them in the washbasin on the kitchen floor, and with a fine rose watering-pot, shower them thoroughly with tepid water, in which may be stirred a spoonful of ammonia if desired. This thorough wetting, in the case of plants in large pots and with those not having a special predilection for water, will suffice from one week to another; plants in small dishes may need a little attention in the interim, because of the evaporation constantly going on from the surface. Very few plants will thrive with their roots in a mud bath.

Directions for growing cuttings were given in the FARMER a few weeks ago, and need not be repeated. But it may be said that autumn is not the time to start cuttings, unless one wishes a choice collection of clay pots as an ornament to the sitting room by window. Take off your slips early, and let them be thrifty plants when they go into winter quarters. There will be some delight in their possession, and then one requires a disposition bound to see the best in everything to get much pleasure out of a lot of scrawny, scraggy plants, which make one tired of life to see their vain attempts to survive.

## Strawberries for Seed.

W. Saunders, in the National Farmer, gives the following directions for raising seedling strawberries:

"One of the great drawbacks in raising various fruits from seed for the purpose of introducing new varieties is the time required before they begin to bear. This, however, does not apply to the strawberry, for we have gathered bushels of fruit from plants eleven months after sowing the seed from which they were raised. These were produced in the following manner: When the fruit is thoroughly ripened the berries are bruised and the seeds washed out from the pulp as carefully as is practicable. This operation may be greatly facilitated by paring thinly the outer surface of the berry, which, of course includes the seeds; by this means the largest portion of the pulp of the berry is rejected, and but very little of the pulpy matter is retained if carefully managed. It is now washed and separated in water, which will allow the greater portion of the pulp to be floated or skimmed off. The seed is then spread thinly on paper and dried in the shade. When dry, the seeds and adhering pulp

are rubbed between the fingers and thumb, which will separate them ready for sowing. Shallow boxes that hold about three inches in depth of soil are the most suitable. These are filled with any kind of light, sandy soil, which is carefully and firmly pressed during filling, and the surface made smooth and level. The seeds are then properly distributed over the surface and covered with a light sprinkling of sand—merely enough to barely cover the seed—and the whole surface pressed evenly and solidly with a wooden block or a common brick. Above all things deep covering of the seed is to be avoided. The boxes are now placed in a shaded position, such as may be found on the north side of a wall, board fence, or hedge, and covered with boards until the seeds vegetate. The surface of the soil should be kept moist, and, unless the weather is very dry, but few applications of water will be required before the young plants appear, which will be in the course of three or four weeks, or less with some of the seeds. The covering greatly prevents drying and obviates the necessity of frequent waterings, which have a tendency to disturb the seeds.

"As soon as the young plants appear they require to be fully exposed at night, although partial shading from bright sun will assist their growth. Any covering during night is injurious, as closeness at that period will inevitably cause the young plants to decay or dampen off at the neck of the tender stem. It is well to protect them from dashing rains in the night when it can be done, but when fully exposed even heavy rains will not cause damping off, although the plants may be somewhat bruised and beaten down.

"As soon as true leaves are formed the young plants should be carefully lifted, separated, and replanted, either in boxes prepared for the seed, or in a sheltered place in the open ground, where the soil can be specially prepared for them by being properly pulverized, smoothed and firmed as recommended for the seed boxes.

"The plants are now set in rows two inches apart—the distances between the plants should not be less than this; the soil can be settled round the roots by a good watering, they will be benefited by shading from bright sun for a few days until they start again to grow; at no time should they be allowed to suffer for water, and no covering given either day or night. About the middle of September, (premising that the seeds were sown as soon as they were ripe, which would not be later than the end of June, the plants will be large enough for permanent planting. The soil being in good condition, full manured and pulverized, the plants are now to be lifted with a small ball of soil attached to the roots. Running a small knife between the rows will help to separate them and secure earth to each plant. Set them in rows three feet apart, and allow eighteen inches from plant to plant. They will make good sized plants for winter, and form numerous flower buds for fruiting the following summer. Protect them during winter, in climates where the thermometer goes down to zero, by slightly covering them with straw or unrotted manure, for even the hardest plants will produce better when protected during winter. Managed in this way fruit is produced in less than twelve months from the time of sowing the seeds; and if the various details of transplanting, etc., have proved favorable to constant and uninterrupted growth, the crop produced will be quite large.

"The quality of the fruit should not be determined by the first crop; but the second year's growth and fruitage will exhibit the normal qualities of the plant, and until this is ascertained all runners should be removed."

## Rainfall vs. Forests.

Prof. Sargent, of Harvard University, in the North American Review does not accept the theory that rain is produced by the presence of forests. But he holds the converse, namely, that rain produces forests, and that without a certain amount of rain they cannot exist at all. His inference, as stated by him, is "that the distribution of forests over the continent shows that where the rain-fall is light and unequally distributed, the forest is proportionally light; and that where the annual average rain-fall sinks below a certain amount, about twenty inches, the real forests disappear entirely."

From Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico there was once an unbroken forest, for the reason that there was a copious rain fall. The destruction of forests on this eastern side of the continent is rapidly followed by this restoration. And on the western, or Pacific side of the continent it is the same. The mountains there precipitate moisture in large volume, and in consequence forests are to be found there such as cannot be matched by any outside the prolific region of the tropics. But when we come to the great plains which stretch eastward from the roots of the Rocky Mountains, we find there are no trees at all, and all because there is but an insignificant rain-fall. What forests do grow there are such as are not to be compared with the luxuriant growths of the Atlantic and Pacific side of the continent.

We are glad to note that Prof. Sargent manifests no alarm at the present condition of American forests. That tone would be apt to be only a discouraging one. Still he is convinced that unless something is seasonably and effectively done to afford the needed protection to our forests as they stand, the time is not far distant when it will be necessary to sound the alarm. The great white pine belt is nearly melted a way. The spruce forests are following fast. The northwest has only a few scattered remnants left. But the southern belt will supply us for hundreds of years, and we can recover our losses to the north again.

## Preserving Grapes for Winter.

Of fruit which it is desirable to preserve, the grape gives the most trouble. We see it stated in the horticultural journals, that in France it is a common practice to cut the bunches with long stems and put them in water—the glass water and bunch is then kept in a cool dark place. We suppose, however, this is for the finer and selected specimens of hot house grapes, and that it would hardly pay on any extensive scale

with our cheaper native kinds. But there is a valuable hint to be gained from this French practice, namely, that if we can prevent evaporation the fruit can be preserved. It seems that a house or chest might be so arranged as to make evaporation nearly impossible, and this ought to do as well as permitting evaporation, and then replacing it by water from a bottle. Indeed, we have known of some who have kept grapes well long into the winter, by simply putting them sound and dry into baskets, covering them with some non-conducting material, and then setting them in a cool cellar, rather dry, and yet secure from frost. Outdoor grape growers in the northwest, from whence we receive here in Philadelphia most of our supply, pack in dry slate boxes, three or four pounds in a box, as we all know and they keep in a perfect condition until about the first of January. This is doing very well, and we do not think that they are very desirable beyond that point.

But as to preserving the choice hot-house varieties, it is highly desirable that we should be able to preserve them all winter if possible, and some of them at least can be kept sound longer than the outdoor varieties. Perhaps the French will help us to do something more successful in this line than has been effected hitherto.—German Town Telegraph.

## The Black Currant.

A fruit met with in our markets less frequently than it should be is the black currant. Its easy cultivation, the vigor with which it grows in almost all soils, and its great fruitfulness are all points in its favor. It flourishes in cold clay, in which but few other fruit trees will thrive, and it is considered poor soil indeed in which the black currant will not grow; nor is its crop so much affected by being shaded during its growth as that of other fruits would be, for most flourishing plantations of it may be seen growing around and under standard trees.

But while all this may be said in its favor, it must also be granted that it is a good feeding plant, increasing in vigor in proportion to the quality of the soil, and it will repay the fruit-grower for all the manure he can bestow upon it. Some little care, however, necessary in regard to the way in which manure is applied; no practice can possibly be worse than to dig in manure in the way in which it is sometimes done, the fork going into the ground so deeply as to tear off quantities of the young roots, thus doing more harm than good. This deep culture may answer very well when the plants are young, but as they attain a larger size, and the roots gradually spread farther, manure is best given as top-dressing or in a liquid state.

## Species of Strawberries.

There are two species of this berry, if indeed it is proper to call that a berry which is only an enlarged receptacle of the flower with the seed in pits on the outside of it. The one (*Fragaria Vesca*) is a native of Europe and has been cultivated time out of mind in Germany, and was known in ancient Rome. The other (*F. Virginica*) is a native of the American continent, and in some of the numerous varieties, was found in Canada to Chili. Some of our finest cultivated varieties are probably hybrids of these two species. The native strawberry has imperfect flowers—the ones bearing the stamens appearing on one plant and those having pistils on another; but by high cultivation and cross fertilization we have succeeded in producing varieties that have perfect flowers. This has proved an important advantage in the cultivation of the fruit. In raising the native strawberry it was necessary to have a due proportion of both kinds in order to effect the fertilization of the flower, without which no fruit will form. Moreover, the staminate plants occupied room and required cultivation, but bore no fruit. In the improved strawberry, of which we have a great number of varieties produced from seed, all the plants bear, and both organs being in the same flowers, the fertilization is more certain and of course the plants are better bearers.—Indiana Farmer.

## Fruit in Italy.

We have fruit upon the table at every meal except breakfast, just when we want it most. The markets are as pretty a picture as you would see, with the heaps and baskets of handsome, shining fruit. Vast quantities of grapes are raised for eating purposes, far more than with us. Several kinds of the grapes for table use are of a pale, translucent green color, very tender and pulpy. They are called white grapes. They are not particularly sweet, but have a very delicate, slightly tart flavor, which makes them peculiarly grateful to the taste in the broiling hot weather. They could undoubtedly be cultivated extensively in the Southern States of our own country, and ought to be. We have also seen some apples here and there, but as far as they have come under our notice, neither the Italian apples nor peaches are as fine as our own. Olives grow in every part of Italy that we have seen, which includes every portion except the southeastern.

The olive orchards here frequently cover the sides of the Apennine mountains quite to the top. Thousands of acres are devoted to olive culture. When we used to read in the Bible about the people who ate bread, wine and olives, we always supposed, you remember, that an olive was a fruit to be eaten ripe, like a peach or an orange. It seems necessary to reconstruct our Bible belief in this respect. They tell us here that an olive is a fruit which must never be eaten raw; that in that state it is a bitter, burning, acid-tasting thing which a goat itself would refuse to take down. It is a product to be pickled and then eaten, usually with bread. In the pickled state those who are accustomed to eating it in its native state say it is delicious. There are various ways of preserving the olive; it is chiefly raised, however, for

the oil, on which, it is said, a great profit is made. There seems to be no good reason why it could not be cultivated successfully in Florida, and perhaps in other parts of the southern United States. In appearance, the olive tree, is about the size and shape of an ordinary peach tree, with a gnarled trunk. Its leaf is the shape of a peach leaf, but small, harsh and stiff. The color of the foliage is a pale, dull green, like that of a sage bush, the true esthetic shade.

We have had a varied experience in eating fresh figs. There are several varieties, of different colors when ripe. We have eaten small green ones and large purple ones. Readers who are fortunate enough to have spent their childhood in the country, will remember the little woods fruit we used to call a "May apple." Well, a fresh Italian fig tastes like that. The rind is bitter and irritating, and must be peeled off. Fig trees grow to great size.

Italian watermelons are good, very like those dear to the soul of the colored brother in August days. But the muskmelons taste to us Americans like a raw pumpkin. There was one fruit we could not possibly make out for a week or two. It was like a plum, and then, again, it wasn't. It was yellow inside, and smooth, shining and yellow, with a brilliant red cheek, up on the outside. It was tougher and dryer than a peach, and yet tasted like one, and was on the whole good, and interest on the subject ran high. We took sides and had discussions. We bet bottles of wine on it. Was it peach or plum or apricot? At last we found a solemn old Italian waiter who knew enough English to solve this important question. He said the mysterious fruit was called the nut-peach. Did he make the name out of his own head? I don't know.—(Cor. Cincinnati Commercial.

## FLORICULTURAL.

WM. FALCONER, of Cambridge, Mass., has succeeded in growing the Florida yellow water lily as a hardy plant as far north as his home in Massachusetts. The lily pads are immense, being eight or nine feet wide. He thinks the secret of his success lay in the fact that the pond in which it grew was fed by drain and surface water, does not freeze to the bottom in winter, and is warm in summer, and thinks it might not do as well in a spring fed pond or cold lake.

At the autumn meeting of the New York Horticultural Society, September 12th, one of the most attractive exhibits was that of E. D. Sturtevant, of Borden-town, N. J., who showed a fine collection of water lilies. A correspondent of the Country Gentleman describes as follows:

"The display consisted of a leaf and flower of the Victoria Regia, several blooms of the Egyptian lotus (*Nelumbium speciosum*), and a number of species of *Nymphaea*. The leaf of the Victoria Regia was over six feet in diameter, and being placed with its under side uppermost, it displayed its peculiar reticulated veining and projecting spines. The leaf stalk was a dozen feet in length, and about an inch and a half in diameter. The flower was a foot in diameter; when first open, it is a snow-white cone, giving off a most delicious odor. In the course of a day or two, the petals droop and turn of a pink color. Mr. Sturtevant told the writer that the plant was raised from seed, and was only four months old. It grew in a large tank about twenty feet square, with the water two and a half feet deep. The leaves are so large and strong that a lad of a dozen years can stand up on one with safety. The fourth flower was the one exhibited. Soon another bud will be open, and thus there is a succession of these gigantic and most beautiful blooms. This, according to the exhibitor, is the first instance of a Victoria Regia having reached its floral state in the open air in our climate.

"The flowers of the Egyptian lotus were of a delicate rosy pink color, and when fully expanded, some of the blooms measured over twelve inches across. The structure of these flowers is peculiar; the stamens are vast in number, but of comparatively small size, and occupy a ring at the base of the large, flat-topped pistil, which is shaped like the rose or sprinkler to a watering-pot. Mr. Sturtevant finds this treasure of the Nile perfectly hardy in the climate of New Jersey. It would seem as if the rose of the ancient Egyptians, and the flower that has figured so largely in the mythology, the hieroglyphics and the history of an eastern nation, is to become an introduced member of our cultivated aquatic plants.

"The Devon water lily, (*Nymphaea deventriensis*), of which several flowers were exhibited, is of a deep red, and when the petals are fully opened, each bloom will measure nearly one foot across. Mixed with these blooms were those of the blue water lily (*Nymphaea carolinensis*); though of smaller size, they lead all the rest in a most exquisite perfume. Among the white varieties was the dwarf Chinese species (*Nymphaea pycnantha*), with its flowers not over an inch in length. The contrast between these and the larger red *Nymphaea*, and the still larger Victoria Regia and Egyptian lotus, was peculiarly striking."

## Horticultural Notes.

The Rural New Yorker says that bagged omelettes ripened as early as perfectly colored, and well proved as sweet as when left to mature in the sun. Any difference in ripening was in favor of the bagged tomatoes. The experiment proved to be no protection against rot.

The Indiana Farmer gives a list of the apples that have given the best crops in this unproductive year: Clayton, Smith's Cider, Jersey Black, Wine Sap, Milan, McAffee's Nonsuch, President, Ben Davis, Northern Spy, Belleflower, Maiden's Blush, Grimes' Golden Pippin, R. I. Greening. The Ben Davis in particular are loaded.

The Country Gentleman advises those who desire to take impressions of fruits, in order to procure correct outlines and distinct records of their size and shape, to cut the fruits exactly through the middle with a sharp, thin bladed knife, let it dry half an hour or so, to evaporate the juice on the surface; then with a pen touch lightly the exterior of the face of stem with ink, and press it on unsized blotting paper, which will absorb the ink and make a perfect impression. Press every part well down. The moisture of the face will cause the ink to spread and make a soft shading.

The Rural New Yorker believes that there is a way of determining when a watermelon is ripe by its appearance only, which is far more trustworthy than any of the usual methods, and far easier as well, since it is not necessary to stoop or to handle it in any way. It is by the bloom. Melons have bloom the same as grapes, and the color changes as the melon ripens. In some varieties it disappears altogether when they are ripe, as it is dissipated by the sun's rays. In others it changes to a more mellow tint, losing its frosty or glaucous blue. The bloom of melons varies with different varieties, and unfortunately cannot be given, but observation and experience will enable any one to ascertain the several phases, when they will be convinced this is the best method of determining ripeness.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Germantown Telegraph, in commenting upon a paragraph which has been going the rounds of the press relative to the cleaning of cider casks, says: "Allow me to say plainly that a 'clean cider barrel' is one that has never been unclean, and I may frankly say also, that there is no cure for anything that has already happened. My private opinion of the receipt given from a 'scientific' journal is, that it is a very scientific, and will enter the pores of the wooden vessels, and then combine with vegetable acids in such way as to become insoluble in water, yet soluble in the acid of cider, and it will 'kill' any wine put into it. The rust of iron is also certain death to wine, and as for mould, nothing but fire or its equivalent can ever wholly destroy its insidious germs. Cider casks are never suffered to become mouldy, and the care of them is one of the secrets of cider-making."

MONROE, Mich., Sept. 25, 1875.

Sirs—I have been taking Hop Bitters for inflammation of Kidneys and bladder. It has done for me what four doctors failed to do. The effect of Hop Bitters seemed like magic to me. W. L. CARTER.

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Howell 7:45 11:55 1:55 5:30 7:30  
Chicago 8:30 12:40 2:40 6:15 8:15  
Lansing 9:15 1:25 3:25 7:00 9:00  
Port Huron 9:45 1:55 3:55 7:30 9:30  
Greenville 11:05 4:10 6:10 9:45 11:45  
Howell 11:35 4:40 6:40 10:15 12:15  
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**DETROIT, LANSING AND NORTH BAY RAILROAD.**  
On and after Sunday, Oct. 1, 1882, trains will arrive and depart from Detroit as follows:  
Going West  
Detroit, Mich. 5:45 a.m. 9:50 a.m. 11:50 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.  
Plymouth 6:15 10:25 12:25 4:00 6:00  
Howell 7:45 11:55 1:55 5:30 7:30  
Chicago 8:30 12:40 2:40 6:15 8:15  
Lansing 9:15 1:25 3:25 7:00 9:00  
Port Huron 9:45 1:55 3:55 7:30 9:30  
Greenville 11:05 4:10 6:10 9:45 11:45  
Howell 11:35 4:40 6:40 10:15 12:15  
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By the use of HUNT'S REMEDY the stomach and bowels will be kept in perfect health, and the blood will be perfectly purified. HUNT'S REMEDY is a safe, sure and speedy cure, and hundreds have testified to having been cured by it, when physicians and friends had given up hope to die. Do not delay, but try at once HUNT'S REMEDY.  
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HUNT'S REMEDY is purely vegetable, and is a sure cure for Heart Disease and Rheumatism when all other medicine fails.  
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## MICHIGAN FARMER

State Journal of Agriculture.

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the industrial and producing interests of Michigan.

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would confer a favor by having their letters register

d, or procuring a money order, otherwise we cannot

be responsible for the money.

The Michigan Farmer

State Journal of Agriculture.

DETROIT, TUESDAY, OCT. 10, 1932.

## WHEAT.

The receipts of wheat in this market the past week have been 301,312 bu., while the shipments were 257,440 bu. The visible supply of this grain on Sept. 30 was 13,149,613 bu. against 19,494,352 bu. at the corresponding date in 1931. This shows a decrease from the amount in sight the previous week of 140,138 bu. The stocks of wheat in this city on Saturday amounted to 272,235 bu. against 215,332 last week, and 926,400 bu. at the corresponding date in 1931.

The market has ruled very steady the past week, fluctuations in both spot and futures being very light, and prices of No. 1 white marking the same at the close on Saturday as on the previous Monday. One of the points in the market has been the appreciation in price of Nos. 2 and 3 red, and the sharp decline in No. 3 white and rejected. The results of the harvest are now beginning to show in the receipts of large quantities of No. 3 and rejected wheat. The past week, of 742 carloads received 100 only graded No. 3, and 157 rejected, two grades heretofore unknown in this market. The large arrivals of rejected have caused prices of that grade to tumble, and it is now quoted at 64c per bu. against 67c one week ago. The low rates will probably cause a decline in the receipts of these grades, as farmers will prefer feed of these grades, as farmers will prefer feed of these grades, as farmers will prefer feed of these grades.

Yesterday there was a dull market all day, with No. 1 white and No. 2 red steady, but the lower grades depressed and weak, and all closing lower.

The following table exhibits the daily closing prices of wheat from September 15th to October 9th:

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 2	No. 3	No. 2	No. 3
Sept. 15	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
16	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
17	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
18	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
19	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
20	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
21	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
22	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
23	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
24	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
25	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
26	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
27	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
28	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
29	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
30	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Oct. 1	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
2	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
3	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
4	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
5	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
6	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
7	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
8	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
9	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

In futures the movement has been upward in all the deals, showing that dealers are not looking for any further decline in prices, which are certainly low enough to meet the views of any one with some knowledge of the true value of wheat. The following table shows the closing prices of the various deals for the past week:

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Tuesday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Wednesday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Thursday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Friday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Saturday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Sunday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00

Mr. J. B. Lawes, of Rothamsted, England, writing to Beerholm's London Corn Trade List, expresses the opinion, based on his experimental plots, that the output of the wheat crop in the United Kingdom will be below the estimate of the London Times, and that the required imports will for the crop year exceed 14,000,000 quarters or 112,000,000 bushels. His experimental plots show a large yield of straw and a deficient yield of grain.

The cereal harvest in Germany is ended. The Prussian wheat crop is estimated at ten per cent below an average, or 54,173,351 bushels. The crop suffered by too much rain. The rye crop was injured more than wheat. The threshing is disappointing. The crop is 10 per cent below an average, or 197,361,097 bushels of 56 lbs. The barley crop is 20 per cent below average, or 45,630,173 bushels of 45 lbs.; and oats are five per cent below an average, or 231,410,150 bushels of 32 lbs. These are estimates of the Vienna Congress, and the government estimates are reported as somewhat more favorable.

The Danubian provinces are reported to have this year the best cereal crops of the last ten years.

From Russia the reports are somewhat conflicting. Latest advice as to the effect that Russian Poland and Bessarabia have over an average crop of wheat; and the south and center are slightly below an average. The greater proportion of Russia's wheat crop is grown in the south, center, Bessarabia, Poland, and Estland. Podolia has 15-100 above an average. The Russia rye crop will be a good one, and the wheat crop will be about an average. Russia's export has been as high as 102,331,823 bu. wheat in 1878, as low as 32,112,897 in 1880, with an average for eight years ended 1880 of 57,911,805 bu. and an average from 1884 to 1890 of 53,409,002 bu. Her export this season may therefore be expected to reach from 50 to 60 millions of bushels.

The following table gives the prices ruling at Liverpool on Saturday as compared with those of one week previous:

	Sept. 30	Oct. 7
Wheat, No. 1 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 2 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 3 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 4 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 5 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 6 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 7 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 8 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 9 white	98 1/2	99 1/2
Wheat, No. 10 white	98 1/2	99 1/2

## CORN AND OATS.

The receipts of corn in this market the past week amounted to 5,964 bu., and the shipments were 1,081 bu. The visible supply in the country on Sept. 30 amounted to 6,650,504 bu. against 27,881,974 bu. at the same date last year. The export clearances for Europe the past eight weeks were 518,008 bu. against 8,103,763 bu. for the corresponding eight weeks in 1931. The visible supply shows a decrease during the week of 50,064 bu. The stocks now held in this city amount to 5,178 bu., against 3,742 bu. last week, and 34,915 bu. at the corresponding date in 1931. The market is stronger than a week ago, and on Saturday quotations for No. 2 corn were 86c per bu. at which price very little could be secured. Stocks are light and demands limited, the low price of other grains inducing consumers to use them in preference whenever practicable. In Chicago there has also been an advance the past week, and on Saturday spot No. 2 was quoted at 61c per bu. against 58c one week ago. Futures are also higher, October selling at 61c, November at 62c, and December at 59c per bu. It is quite evident the recent frosts in the west, which we were assured by telegraph a day after they occurred did no harm, have at least had the effect of putting two or three cents per bu. on the price of corn. We need not look for cheap corn until the crop of 1933 is secured. In Liverpool old mixed corn is quoted at 6s. 6d. per cental, the same price as ruled one week ago.

The receipts of oats in this market the past week were 40,760 bu. and the shipments were 24,346 bu. The visible supply of this grain in the country on Sept. 30 was 5,519,557 bu. against 6,468,050 bu. at the corresponding date last year. The stocks held in store here on Saturday were 23,005 bu. against 33,476 bu. the previous week, and 23,224 bu. at the corresponding date in 1931. The past week prices have ruled steady and No. 2 white are still quoted at 39c per bu., with more firmness toward the close of the week. For No. 3 the usual price is 36c per bu. In futures No. 2 white sold at 54c for delivery during 1932. Oats will be largely used to take the place of corn this season, as they are relatively the cheapest, and this will help prices. The stocks of old were also completely exhausted before the new crop began to arrive, and it looks as if the immense crop would all be needed. Reports from Indiana say that oats did not turn out well in that State this season.

## HOPS AND BARLEY.

The eastern hop markets are still active, although a further advance in prices has caused dealers to act more conservatively in making purchases. The country markets are relatively the strongest, and dealers there are paying within a cent or two of New York city prices. Reports from abroad are still of a character to strengthen markets on this side of the Atlantic, and show an active demand existing at advancing prices. Latest cable orders make 70c per lb. in New York for good hops the basis of purchases, and the probability of still higher rates being paid is now regarded as pretty certain. In regard to the New York market the Commercial Bulletin of Saturday says:

"The demand continues fairly active, and while buyers are still moving timidly, a considerable amount of stock is changing hands. Liberal estimates place the entire American crop at not over 120,000 bales. Of this amount fully 20,000 bales are likely to be exported, leaving but 90,000 bales to supply a home consumption that last year reached nearly, if not quite, 140,000 bales. This is a very small margin, and prices are high, and which, moreover, may put values still higher."

The latest quotations in this market are as follows:

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Tuesday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Wednesday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Thursday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Friday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Saturday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Sunday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00

Barley was received in this market the past week to the amount of 10,978 bu. and the shipments were 3,000 bushels. The amount of this grain in sight Sept. 30 was 54,943 bu. against 1,392,024 bu. at the corresponding date in 1931. The market keeps quite active and steady at about the same range of prices as prevailed last week, namely, \$1.50 to \$3.00 per cental for fair to good samples of State, and \$1.75 to \$2.25 per cental for good to choice samples of Canadian. In Chicago towards the close of the week the market was weaker, owing to large receipts of low grade barley, principally No. 3, which sold down to 56 and 57c per bu., while No. 2 was held steadily at 80c per bu. for spot. There is a large amount of low grade barley this year, and prices will undoubtedly be low for such samples; but for light colored barley of fair weight the market will probably be active at fair figures as compared with other grain.

## BUTTER AND CHEESE.

The receipts of good butter are still below the demands of the market, and prices are hardening. For fair to good samples of late made butter, well flavored, 25 to 26c per lb. is quite readily paid, while a really choice article of prime quality and flavor would command two to three cents more. The lower grades are little inquired for, and dealers find it difficult to get rid of such stock except at extremely low figures. The Chicago market has ruled steady the past week, with the better grades in good demand and poor stock rather neglected. The prices ruling are about the same as reported a week ago, fancy creamery being quoted there at 30c to 31c per lb. for fat, and at 27 to 28c, choice dairy at 23 to 25c, fair to good at 20 to 22c, and common grades at 15 to 18c. In New York there is

an active demand for fancy stock to meet the demands of the retail trade, and such butter is firm at an advance of 2 to 3 cents per lb. since our last report. For the medium and lower grades, however, there is only a limited demand, with no change to note in prices. Quotations on State stock are as follows: Fancy creamery, 34c; choice do, 32 to 33c; fair to good do, 28 to 30c; ordinary do, 23 to 27c; fat tubs and pails, 20 to 26c; choice do, 27 to 28c; good do, 24 to 26c, and fair do, 20 to 23c per lb. The Commercial Bulletin of Saturday has this to say of the market:

"There has been a further advance made in fancy butter during the week, with the limited supply well up, and quite a fair amount of held stock of the best quality has also found an outlet, a better tone prevailing on all useful goods. The medium and lower qualities, however, have ruled dull in the absence of a domestic outlet for any important demand from shippers. In fact, the position seems to show that, while of really first-class goods there is no more than enough for home wants; buyers who must handle a cheaper article give preference to the preference, and of quality of butter is left to the chances of the foreign trade."

Western butter is quoted in this market as follows:

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Tuesday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Wednesday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Thursday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Friday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Saturday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00
Sunday	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	1 00

Cheese has exhibited strong features the past week, and the firmness noted for some time has at length caused an appreciation in prices. For best makes of full cream State 13 to 13 1/2c are now the established quotations, while for second quality 12 to 12 1/2c is readily obtained. The advance is not confined to this market, the eastern markets all sharing in it. In Chicago the market is firm, but so far prices remain unchanged. Quotations there are as follows: Full cream cheddars, 10 to 11c; cheddars slightly skimmed, 8 to 9c; full cream flats, 10 to 11c; flat slightly skimmed, 8 to 9c; common to fair skims, 5 to 6c, Young American, 13 to 13 1/2c per lb. In New York there has been a general advance on all desirable grades, brought about by an increased demand. Latest quotations are as follows: Fancy white State factory, September make, 12 to 12 1/2c, August, 11 to 12c; prime, 11 to 11 1/2c; medium do, 9 to 10c; choice Ohio flats, 11 1/2 to 12c; fine do, 10 to 11c; fair to good do, 6 to 9c. The Commercial Bulletin of Saturday says:

"A noticeable feature of the week's business was the cheerful reports upon the volume and force of the home demand. Not only have local jobbers been good customers, but orders came in freely from the east, south and 'up river' with freedom, and on perfect quality extreme prices could be made without difficulty. State factory of ordinary weight and fancy quality brought 12 to 13c, with the small sizes reaching 14c and the Ohio flats here 11c. Though the quality been better 13c would have proven an easy point to reach. The shipping demand has been hesitating and uncertain, with an avowed determination to resist cost, based on the foreign markets are reported steady, and in Liverpool choice new American cheese is quoted steady at 50c per cwt.; the same figures as quoted a week ago."

## THE PORK TRADE.

The pork market is the center of interest in the west at present, and the course that it is likely to take is being discussed with great earnestness. At present prices are at an extra range, and no one looks for them to go any higher. The question therefore resolves itself into this: Are prices likely to decline, and if so, to what extent? So far the receipts of hogs are light for the season, but they have shown some symptoms of improvement in this respect the past week, and prices have sensibly declined in consequence. The question is, can these increased receipts be kept up, so as to make good the large deficiency that exists between the amount packed this season from March 1st as compared with that of last year? It is a well known fact that owing to a short corn crop last season farmers as a rule culled down their breeding stock to a low point, and this season the prospects for a corn crop were so unfavorable up to August that we doubt if many farmers made any arrangements to feed a large number of hogs this season. Therefore, though the corn crop has turned out much larger than expected, we doubt if the stock is in the country to feed. With a loss of 1,275,000 hogs since March last as compared with last season, we do not think it possible to make up the deficiency, or even to keep the receipts from this time forward up to those of last season. If this cannot be done, all talk of a decline to low prices this season is nonsense, as the demand for pork products seems to continually increase from year to year. We think it probable that prices of live hogs and their products will decline while the bulk of the crop is coming forward, but it cannot be to very low figures or continue long. On this subject the Cincinnati Price Current, which makes a specialty of looking after the provision market, says:

"The west is still receiving small supplies of hogs, largely short of the usual movement at this time in the year. There is nothing new within the week in regard to outlook, or apparent reasons for the small supplies of hogs. The corn crop is fully made in nearly all sections, and farmers realize not only the fact that there is an unusually large supply of feeding material, but also a smaller amount of swine to fatten than usual for the early future—hence they find themselves justified in holding stock back to a more mature condition. Packers seem to expect to pay about \$7.50 for hogs in November, and the new season will begin with supply markets more nearly bare of hog products than usual, and this will give stimulus to early operations of packers. The packing for the week is about 95,000 short of corresponding period last year, and the falling off since March 1st compared with a year ago is 1,275,000 hogs. Prices of hogs have been sustained during the week and close steady."

This week live hogs have declined in all the markets both east and west, and to a considerable extent in our own; but the warm weather, rendering it bad for packers to operate, may have helped run down prices. In this market live hogs sold from \$7.40 to \$7.60 this week, a drop of 20c

30 cents per hundred during the week. The decline in the Chicago market was about the same.

## WOOL.

The wool markets at the east are generally quiet but steady, with a fair amount of business doing but a conservative feeling generally ruling among buyers. This is helped largely by the stringency prevailing in the money market for the past three weeks. The sales in Boston the past week amounted to 2,189,500 lbs domestic and 185,000 lbs foreign, or 2,374,500 lbs in all against 2,625,975 lbs last week and 2,374,900 lbs for the corresponding week of last year. The Boston Commercial Bulletin says of the market:

"Our classified list of sales below shows that nearly all kinds of wool, both washed and unwashed, have participated in the week's business. Choice XX fleeces are perhaps more sought after, in proportion to the demand, than other grades. Low and coarse, or heavy and dark-colored wools, are now selling pretty well where sellers are willing to accept their relative values. Some very light and clean new full Texas has sold here this week at 26c. It is said that the fall clip this year are in much better condition than usual, and if such is the fact manufacturers will be inclined to devote increased attention to them."

Among the sales of washed fleeces in this market the past week we note the following: 99,000 lbs Ohio XX and above at 42c to 43c; 67,000 lbs X and above at 41c to 42c; 46,400 lbs X at 40c to 41c; 21,100 lbs Michigan X at 39c to 40c; 10,000 lbs Wisconsin X at 38c; 21,500 lbs No. 1 Ohio at 44c to 45c; 12,000 lbs No. 1 Michigan at 42c to 43c; 7,000 lbs medium No. 2 Michigan at 35c; 7,000 lbs coarse fleeces at 32c to 33c; 189,000 lbs various at 31c to 32c.

The sales of combing and delaine fleeces comprised 39,500 lbs Ohio and Michigan fine delaine at 44 to 45c; 24,500 lbs medium delaine and No. 1 combing, principally at 43c; 23,700 lbs low and medium combing at 40 to 45c; 26,500 lbs low wash combing and delaine at 37 to 38c; 108,000 lbs combing and delaine at 42 to 50c; 3,000 lbs fine unwashed combing on p. t., 6,600 lbs medium do at 21c; 25,000 lbs coarse and low do do at 21c. The New York and Philadelphia markets are in about the same condition as that of Boston, trading being quiet owing to a tight money market.

## The Minnesota Harvest.

The State Commissioner of Emigration has made an estimate of the crop yield, based upon returns from threshings. Reports from 45 counties, with an aggregate of 1,805,084 acres, claim the average yield to be 14.09 per acre. The entire wheat acreage of this year is 2,560,697, and at an average of fourteen bushels per acre this gives a total yield of 35,975,638 bushels. Forty-two counties report a yield per acre for oats averaging 42.38 bushels; an average of 40 bushels is believed to fairly represent the yield of the entire State. The number of acres in oats is 849,935, giving the total product at 34,997,000 bushels. Thirty-four counties, with 170,683 acres in barley, report a mean average of 22.42 bushels per acre. The entire area in barley is 309,707 acres, and 23.5 bushels is believed to be very nearly the true average per acre, giving a total crop of 6,098,407 bushels. Corn will, it is said, fall from 15 to 20 per cent, below the usual average good crop. There are 783,053 acres reported in corn this year, against 400,828 last year.

## The British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, in its review of the British grain trade for the past week, says:

"Wheat sowing commenced favorably. The new crop of wheat is in the hands of buyers. Foreign breadstuffs partially improved. American red winter wheat advanced 6d. Arrivals of flour in London very heavy. Both American and European are arriving very freely. Maize is becoming scarce, but with the exception of the new American crop there is every appearance of a decline of about 10s from the highest rate, namely, 34s; ex-ship cargoes in hand, there were 11 fresh arrivals. Eight cargoes sold, 11 were withdrawn and nine remain, including six of red winter and one of California. Cargoes on passage and better inquiry at 1s advance. Sales of English wheat the past week, 57,266 quarters at 30s 6d against 60,864 quarters at 40s 9d, the corresponding period last year."

## Marks of a Berkshire Pig.

To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.

DEAR SIR:—In your next issue please give us the marks of a pure Berkshire pig? Is the white tip on the hind leg indispensable? By doing so you will oblige.

A CONSTANT READER.

The standard of excellence of Berkshire swine adopted by the American Berkshire Association, is as follows:

Color.—Black, with white on feet, face, tip of tail, and an occasional splash on the arm.

Hair.—Fine and soft, medium thickness.

Eyes.—Very clear, rather large, dark hazel or gray.

Ears.—Large, erect, and well placed.

Legs.—Straight, and well placed.

Body.—Well proportioned throughout, depending largely on the size of the animal.

Condition.—In a good healthy growing state, not over-fat.

Size.—Attractive, spirited, and capable of holding thorough breeding and constitutional vigor.

Mr. J. A. ARMSTRONG, of Owosso, has this to say about advertising in the FARMER: "I do not care to have my advertisement continued any longer at present. I have had more orders for Collier dogs than I could supply since my advertisement appeared in your paper. I have been advertising for several years in western and southern journals, and my trade in Colliers has been mostly in those localities, but since I advertised in the FARMER I have been over-run with Michigan orders."

## Stock Notes.

At the sale of the Earl of Airlie's polled Angus cattle at Cortachy Castle, near Kermuir, Scotland, Oct. 4, the average price realized for the Erics was 500 guineas, about \$2,550.

Cozzette, the famous trotting mare, once owned in this city by Mr. J. M. French, had her tongue cut out through an accident recently, and is still alive and well, being kept on soft food. The notorious Ed. Stokes now owns her.

Mr. W. H. COOK, of Linden, Genesee Co., has sold to C. B. Truesdell, of Canton, Wayne County, his imported Clydesdale stallion Lord Inverurie 3d. He was imported by the Powell Bros., of Springboro, Pa., July, 1875, and is a very fine animal.

At the sale of Polled Angus cattle by Geary Bros., very high prices were made, the cows and heifers running from \$300 up to \$1,280 and \$1,500, making a total of \$11,235 for 15 head. Six bulls ranged from \$320 to \$800, and made an aggregate of \$2,450.

W. J. G. DEAN, of Hanover, Jackson Co., has sold to Mr. George W. Davis, of the firm of Parke, Davis & Co., this city, the Jersey cow Plume 21 3288 A. J. C. Register, second in her class at the late State Fair in a ring of 19. Mr. Dean thinks her one of the finest cows in the State.

Statistics show that in the last 14 years the number of sheep in Iowa has shrunk from 1,354,000 to 435,000, a loss of 67 per cent. Lack of proper shelter and food in winter, of fences to enable farmers to keep small flocks, and the ravages of the wolf and his congeners, the ubiquitous dog, are the chief causes of this decline of one of the most important branches of farming.

The following is a report of the sale of the Hawley herd of Shorthorns at the Lansing Fair on Friday last: Mr. Francis Graham, auctioneer: Lady Beaconsfield and calf, to B. B. Baker, Lansing, \$135; Lottie, to C. L. Seely, Lansing, \$80; Lady Beaconsfield, to H. H. Jensen, Eagle, \$75; Beaconsfield



a time it was believed all were lost, but they were finally rescued through a gangway leading to an adjoining mine.

Mulhall, the Edglish statistician, makes out this country the richest on the globe. He estimates that the value of property in the United States is \$50,000,000,000. He places England next in rank, with \$44,100,000,000, and France third, with \$37,300,000,000.

Through a misplaced switch at Salem, N.J., on the 24, a passenger train running to New York collided with a passenger train on a side track. The engines and baggage cars were demolished and several persons seriously hurt, and six so badly injured that they have died.

The Washington authorities are trying to discover who poisoned the boquet given to Gaithe by his sister the day before his execution. One had half opened flower contained five grains of white arsenic, as shown by Prof. Tilden's chemical analysis just completed.

Charles and Frank Slaughter and Charles Callen, of Philadelphia, the engineers and porter in Howell & Bros.' wholesale paper business, have been arrested for thefts perpetrated covering a score of years and amounting to tens of thousands of dollars. Five master paper hangers have been arrested for complicity in the robberies.

Hiram Walker, of Walkerville, Ont., lost one of his large stock barns by fire, in September, under circumstances favoring strongly of incendiarism. On the night of the 4th another large barn was burned under still another suspicious circumstance, and the police are on track of the "fire bugs."

Some \$5,000 worth of religious subscription books were seized by the sheriff at Elmira, N. Y., last week, at the instance of New York and Philadelphia publishers, who claim that the books were consigned to C. E. Chamberlain & Co., and fraudulently disposed of by that firm. Over to the high calling of all parties the seizure caused a sensation.

Samuel L. Clemens has filed a bill in the United States Court at Chicago, to enjoin Edward Clark & Co., from publishing his unauthorized biography, and to compel them to account for and disgorge certain profits which he claims they have received through the piracy of his literary labors. Clemens proposes to make it lively for the literary thieves.

Six hundred Jewish families have been driven out of Pressburg Hungary, by rioters. Prince Bismarck is on his way to Friedrichsruhe, where he will remain during the autumn months.

There was a report of an attempt to assassinate the Pope last week, but it is unfounded.

Anti-Jewish riots have been renewed at Magdeburg, in Hungary, many persons killed and much property destroyed.

Riots continue to break out at Cairo between the Copts and Mohammedans, and many of the houses of the former have been plundered.

A statement prepared at the war office shows that the actual strength of the British force engaged in Egypt reaches a total of 27,579 soldiers and 12,367 animals.

Mukhtar Pasha, the Turkish representative, refuses to evacuate Gousta, one of the ceded points in Thessaly, and Greece is again reinforcing her troops on the frontier.

Sir Evelyn Wood has been designated by the British government as the commander of the British troops who remain in Egypt until a complete restoration of the Khedive's authority.

The falling of the iron curtain among the footlights at the Royal Opera House, Berlin, on the night of the 7th, created a panic among the audience, and many people were badly crushed and trampled upon.

Affairs in Peru do not seem to be much nearer a settlement than they were two years ago. The Chileans hold the seaports and the capital and take in the revenues, while in the interior, Montero has formed a new ministry, and an army is still on foot.

The murderers of Lord Cavendish and Under Secretary Burke are still at large. The authorities say they have possession of the weapons with which the deed was done, but that the perpetrators cannot be convicted unless some one should turn informer.

The preliminaries for the trial of Arabi Pasha and other prisoners of state at Cairo are nearly completed. DeLesseps is interfering for Arabi, who has as yet been unable to secure acquittal. A number of natives convicted of complicity in the riots at Alexandria were executed on the 7th, and others are being tried.

#### Market Plums.

The Country Gentleman, in response to an inquiring correspondent, says in reference to the best plums for market:

"In making a selection, one of the first requisites is free growth, and the next, still more important, is productiveness. The variety among the purple plums which combines these two characteristics in the highest degree, is the *Lombard*. The only objection is its moderate flavor. But the hardness of the tree, its free growth, its abundant bearing, and the handsome appearance of the reddish purple fruit, give it preeminent advantages. Perhaps the next on the purple list will be the *Bradshaw*, a large, very showy plum, rather coarse, but when fully ripe of quite good quality. In some localities the tree is a good bearer, while in others it is only moderately so. *Smith's Orleans* is a strong grower and a good bearer, but for profitable marketing, we should place it a little below the two previously named. *Pond's Seedling* is a large, brilliant and showy plum, of moderate quality, and regarded by some as one of the best market sorts, but we have not found it a good bearer. Among the yellow sorts, *Prince's Yellow* Gage among the earlier, and *Reine Claude de Bourg* among the later, deserve the first place. Both are free growers and great and uniform bearers. *Imperial Gage*, a greenish yellow variety, is worthy of being placed with them. A little lower down in the list, we would place *Bleeker's Gage*, the tree a moderate grower but great bearer, and the fruit of good but not very high quality. Some cultivators prefer *Coe's Golden Drop* to any other yellow sort for market, but it has the objection of the rather slow growth of the tree, and the late ripening of the fruit at the north. When the seasons are long and warm, the large, golden, crimson-dotted fruit can be scarcely equalled in beauty, while the quality is excellent. For fine appearance and the highest flavor, *Jefferson* and *McLaughlin* perhaps stand at the head, but the growth of the trees is not sufficient to place them among market sorts. Washington is too liable to rot; *Green Gage* is small, and the tree a feeble grower. *Lawrence* is fine in quality, but would hardly be regarded as a market sort."

The continued rush of western cattle upon a declining market, we must confess, is rather a surprise to us. Prices of late have been but little better than a year ago, yet the arrivals continue heavy. Ranchmen have proclaimed all along that the supply of beef cattle for market this season would be but little, if any, heavier than last year. But while talking thus, they have rushed cattle to market in such numbers as never before known in the trade. Last week there was received in Chicago no less than

40,000 cattle and 18,000 here, two-thirds of which were western cattle. Over 3,200 cars at these two points alone in seven days. That such receipts should be had when it is known that ranchmen are well off, can only be accounted for upon the ground that the supply has been greatly under-estimated, and that prices, even at present figures, are sufficiently remunerative to induce ranchmen to market their surplus.—Kansas City Price Current.

#### The Honey Crop of 1882.

The outlook for the honey crop of 1882 is but a little better than that of 1881. New York State, a leading honey-producing center, will run short of its general good average, but this deficiency will be offset by gains in Illinois, Michigan and other Western States, which produced less than usual in 1881. California promises a quarter crop this year, against a total failure in 1881. This will constitute the surplus over the quantity of honey marketed in 1881. The heavy honey year was 1878. The crop has not equaled the output of the bees since that date. Joseph M. McCaul, who has just returned from a visit to the leading bee-keepers of the Golden State, states that, placing California's crop of honey in 1878 at 720,000 pounds, about a quarter of a crop can be looked for there this season, some 180,000 pounds. This amount, about 90 tons, according to the best available reports, will constitute the excess of honey in 1882 over that of the preceding year. The taking up of alternate sections of land in California for grazing and allowing sheep to range across the intermediate plots, tends to destroy the blossoms on which the industrious bee has depended. A fire swept across a county or two in Southern California two years ago, and all verdure was destroyed. This discouraged the bee-keepers, as well as the bees, although by next season it is reported that blossoms will be fairly plenty once more. This explains the failure of the honey crop in that State last year. But the probability of recurrences of fires, together with the grazing trouble, point to the steady reduction of the honey product in California now on, unless measures are taken to cultivate bee food in the canons and elsewhere, which plan is meeting with serious consideration with California bee-keepers. The falling off in the honey crop in New York State in 1881, where the product had heretofore been uniformly large, was due to cold weather in June delaying the blossoming of plants. Later, a dry season continued the damage already done, so that the Western States alone this year are expected to present average crops. New York and California being responsible for a large proportion of the honey produced in the United States, the importance of knowing the situation in those regions is at once perceived.—Broad Street.

#### Ten Thousand Acres of Oysters.

The joy caused in gastronomic and epicurean circles by Mr. Olsen's paper on "The North Sea Fisheries" and the great oyster discoveries there will be shared by the whole oyster-eating world. The two thousand miles of oyster beds, thirty to seventy miles wide, that is to say, 10,000 acres of splendid oysters within easy distance of the British coast, is a discovery to which all those of Stanley and Livingston sink into insignificance. One curious feature about it is that the oysters lie at a depth of twenty-one fathoms, thus dispelling summarily of the prevalent idea that oysters can only be raised successfully in shallow water. The man who invents a new dish, according to some, the man who plants a tree, according to the Mohammedans, deserves well of mankind; but what is the reward of a man who discovers 10,000 acres of oysters? And yet all this is tinged with the melancholy doubt whether oysters will be cheaper in consequence.—Pall Mall Gazette.

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The largest and most complete general stock in the U. S., including many choice novelties. A large catalogue mailed free to applicants. Address: **ELLWANGER & BARRY, 141 Hope Street, New York City.**

**Hampshire Down Lambs For Sale**  
Both Rams and Ewes, winners of first and second prizes at Illinois State Fair at Peoria; and also first and second at St. Louis, Mo. fair. Terms reasonable. Address: **HENRY PHILLIPS, 1012-1014 14th Avenue, Detroit.**

**Notice to Farmers in want of a cheap and powerful STUMP MACHINE.**  
This machine has now been well recommended and has No Equal for power for the price. Two sizes, \$35 and \$45. Send for circulars to **JAMES DUNN, 32 Bank Street, New York City.** Mention Farmer.

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For the dressing of every description of wounds, sores, burns and scalds, cuts, sprains, bruises, piles, swellings, tumors, chilblains, bunions, corns, nasal and bronchial catarrhs, sore throat, croup, pleurisy and sore breasts, all skin diseases, dandruff, eczema, barber's itch, bites of insects and serpents, internally for coughs, colds, hoarseness and similar affections, it has no equal as a general household remedy. Price Twenty-five and Fifty Cents per Bottle.

**Veterinary Petrolina for Horses & Cattle.**  
Will promptly cure saddle sores, sore shoulders, cuts, galls and wounds of every description, scratches, greasy heel, thrush, quarter-cracks, contraction of the hoof, sprains, bruises, etc., in fact is beneficial in all cases where an ointment or liniment can be of any service, never spoils and is decidedly cheap. Pound cans, plain 50 cents, carbated 75 cents. Trade supplied by FARRAND, WILLIAMS & CO., Wholesale Druggists, Detroit, Mich.

**Shorthorn Bulls For Sale.**  
Two fine bull calves are offered for sale at reasonable prices. One by Red Prince, formerly owned by Mr. A. S. Brooks, out of a daughter of Red Prince, granddam, Jessie of Oakland, the Brooks herd. He is a deep red in color, and an unusually fine animal in every respect. The other was sired by Lord Barrington 3d, and out of Geraldine, a cow purchased by Mr. Wm. Ball in Kentucky and formerly owned by J. A. Alexander. He is also a deep red in color, good size, and an extra well finished calf. For terms, etc., apply to this office, or to **W. M. JOHNSON, NORTVILLE, MICH.**

**FOR SALE.**  
We offer for sale a fine full bred Percheron mare, sound and kind. Has a foal by her side by Hiram Walker & Sons' Percheron stallion Romulus. The mare is a dapple gray in color. Apply to **W. W. COLLIER & CO., 81 Woodbridge St., West, DETROIT, MICH.**

**Salt in Agriculture.**  
STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, LANSING, MICH., Dec. 3, 1879.  
DEAR SIR:—The specimen of Refuse Salt you forwarded me from Bay City has been analyzed and gives the following result:

Chloride of Sodium..... 67.74 per cent.  
Chloride of Potassium..... 2.49  
Sulphate of Lime..... 1.60  
Carbonate of Lime..... .40  
Carbonate of Magnesia..... .35  
Oxide of Iron..... .37  
Water..... 6.38  
..... 99.91

Fine Salt of the salt works consists essentially of Chloride of Sodium, containing but a very small amount of salts of lime and magnesium, and only traces of Chloride of Potassium and Oxide of Iron. For manure purposes the Refuse Salt is more valuable, as it contains nearly two per cent. of Potash Salt, which is one of the essential elements in the soil of all lands. The small amount of Lime and Magnesia Salts also make it more valuable as manure than pure salt would be. The chloride properties of Oxide of Iron are strong that the refuse salt is much colored thereby although less than one part in a hundred is present. For manure purposes, therefore, your Refuse Salt is more valuable than pure common salt, in addition it contains goodly amounts of potash, lime and magnesia, which are all valuable in plant growth. Respectfully,

**Prof. Chemistry, Agricultural College**  
**E. S. FITCH, Fertilizing Salt, Bay City**  
-27-3m

**HERCULES POWDER!**  
**FOR**  
**Stump 'Blasting'!**  
**ISRAEL B. NORCROSS, Agent,**  
With T. B. Spencer, Hardware & Stoves,  
212 Genesee St., East Saginaw, Mich.  
-26-2m

**Twenty Men Wanted.**  
**TO SELL**  
**"THE FARMER'S COMPANION,"**  
— BY —  
**GEO. E. WARING.**  
Will pay salary or commission. Men wanted who have the most able and experienced teachers, finest much desired and give reference as to your ability and integrity. Address **F. B. DICKERSON & CO., Publishers, DETROIT, MICH.**

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**Business University,**  
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In the oldest, largest, most thorough and practical, has the most able and experienced teachers, finest rooms, most complete system of actual business, and better facilities every way than any other business college in Michigan. Ask our graduates and the business men of Detroit about our school. **Call or send for circulars.** -22-2m

**STOCK AUCTIONEER.**  
I have a few choice thoroughbred rams, part bred by myself and part selected from the best flocks of Vermont, all entered in the Vermont Register, which I offer at reasonable prices. Apply to **J. EVART SMITH, Ypsilanti, Mich.** -23-3\*

**150 RAMS.**  
I have one hundred and fifty choice rams for sale, at wholesale or retail. Both Michigan and Vermont registered. **J. R. KEENEY, Ypsilanti or Ypsilanti, Mich.** -24-1\*

**FRANCIS GRAHAM,**  
Thoroughbred Stock and general auctioneer, 636 3d Street, Detroit, Mich. Sales conducted throughout the State. Will positively padlock and breed. **\$72 a WEEK.** \$13 a day at home. Samples worth \$25 sent by mail. Address **FRANCIS GRAHAM, 636 3d Street, Detroit, Mich.** -25-2m

**NEW APPLES**  
Tulips, Root Grafts, etc. For price list, Phenix Nursery, Delavan, Wisconsin. -19-4\*

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## Poetry.

## A SONG OF AUTUMN.

Hail to thee, Autumn! Gracious of presence!  
Weary are we of birds that sing  
Of the May-day joys of field and pleasure,  
Of the old, false hymns of the faithless Spring,  
A false maiden, none might trust her,  
Was boyhood Spring, with her changeful mien.  
In ripened womanhood's richest lustre  
Calmy thou comest, Lady and Queen!

Many to her are the dainties laden  
With honeyed breathing of flattering praise.  
Sated and vain with applause, proud maiden,  
She flouts her lovers, and scorns their praise.  
Thou!—With her "twere shame to compare thee";  
Worshiper thou to be sung and wooed;  
Thou like a high-born dame dost wear thee,  
Gracious of presence and bounteous of mood.

Hail to thee, Autumn! Thee we honor,  
Queen of the Seasons, without a peer!  
Spring? She had promise of beauty on her,  
But time and the glory and crown of the year.  
First in worship why did we not her,  
Spring—the wayward, the cold, the coy?  
Aye in our hearts, we have loved thee better,  
Autumn, the gracious, the bringer of joy!

Beautiful Autumn! thou that bringest  
The sweet, calm days of the cloudless light.  
Beautiful Autumn! thou that flingest  
A mellowed lustre o'er field and height;  
Thine is the flush of the purple heather,  
Thine is the gleam of the harvest sheaves,  
Thine is the glow where ripening together  
The apples brighten through dusk green leaves.

Thine is the glory on crags and moorlands,  
Thine is the haze upon dreamy seas,  
Thine is the plashing round dark forelands  
Of falling waters; thy gifts are these:  
With sport for the ranger of dale and wood,  
Wealth of the corn land for toiling men,  
And unto berry for happy childhood  
In wonderful wanderings by wood and glen.

Beautiful Autumn! Bringer of pleasure,  
Bringer of beauty, bringer of gain,  
More in thy bounty, bringer of leisure  
To those away in heart and brain:  
Thou dost bring us of the bliss of life;  
Where Nature, All mother, lulls us to sleep,  
And cools our brows with her healing kisses,  
Breeze of the mountain and breeze of the deep.

Beautiful Autumn! Well may we greet thee  
Chief of the seasons! Queen of the year!  
Well may our hearts go forth to meet thee,  
And bring thee in triumph, with shout and with cheer!

Hymns to thy praise will we not be sparing  
Singing thee, Lady, gracious of mien,  
Bona tons of spirit and state of bearing,  
Autumn, the crowned one, our Queen, our Queen!

—Harper's Bazar.

## THE ALD WIFE.

The said wife has a faded eye,  
That glints will love when it fa's on me,  
For the life o' me, I canna see  
A fault to find with the said wife's eye.

I mak' na doot but her looks are gray,  
They were gowden once where the sun did play,  
But her siller crown on my heart shall lay  
For her gudeman, too, grows sallow and gray.

The said wife's hands, like claws are bent,  
Their strength 'tho' the angle neuk was spent,  
Their bonny brown to the bairns was lent,  
And we love their touch, though hard and bent.

The voice is crackit, an' weak, an' thin,  
That made me once over the hill top win,  
To the open door, where she sat to spin,  
And I love it yet, though weak and thin.

The said wife's feet move very slow,  
O'er the worn threshold to and fro;  
Though the downy road we see,  
An' we gang an' gait, though weak and slow.

The said wife sits in her chair and dreams,  
An' the siller sun on her fair face gleams,  
Till the morn'ny bonny bairn aye seems,  
Till the morn'ny bonny bairn aye seems.

—A. T. Warden, in Rochester Post-Express.

## Miscellaneous.

## ONE MAN'S HEART.

## CHAPTER I.

A long, dusty street lay white and hot under an unshaded August sun. The closely-cut lawns were bright and green where the water had been thrown upon them from the hydrants and hose in the yards, but the bits of grass along the sidewalks were dusty and withered. The leaves on the trees drooped in the noontide glare, and seemed to be mutely appealing to the cloudless sky for moisture and coolness. Not a breath of air stirred anywhere as far as one could see; all nature seemed waiting in a painful pause for a relief for which there seemed no hope.

Far down the western horizon, it is true, there was a line of dark clouds, but it was a hint rather than a promise of the cooling rain which the city needed—a thought written in the heavens, impalpable and shadowy, rather than a threat of what nature might do when the silent powers of the air were loosed.

Of human life the scene showed little. In all the long street there were only two persons to be seen. Closed blinds protected the inmates of the houses from the almost furnace heat, and no business was being done the need of which was not imperative. Two men, however, were in sight.

The first lay stretched in a hammock on the piazza of the largest and most pretentious house on the street. His clothing was of the latest style—fresh, cool, comfortable. The face which was looking out at the vines overhead was a handsome one. The book which had fallen to the floor was an expensive one. Everything around spoke of wealth and happiness.

The other man, coming up the shadeless street, walked wearily. His clothing was coarse, and in many places it was patched, in some it was ragged. His face and his garments were covered with dust. His hair was long and hung over his forehead. His beard was rough and uneven. He was a man who would have been plain anywhere, and who looked his worst that afternoon as he came on through the dust. He had walked for blocks scarcely looking to the right or left, and there was a look in his eyes that might have seemed angry, or might have seemed despair, according to the nature and the observing powers of one who looked at him.

"Once more," he said—"once more, and then—"

He opened the gate of the yard before the house where the man lay in the hammock. The man on the piazza swung himself down and stood at the top of the steps waiting for the tramp.

"Well," he said. The tone was not encouraging.

"Well," answered the other. There was more in the tone than one could get at once. All the emotions of which the human

heart is capable seemed to have stood by the soul of the wretched man and aided in sharing the thought before the lips said "Well."

"What can I do for you?"

"Give me money. I want money."

"What is your story?"

"No matter what my story is; never mind my past—nor my future either. See what I am. Do you want to invest in the gratitude of a man like me? Is there any possibility of your needing it again?"

"You are hungry?"

The question was a useless one, for the man had the look of one starved; but the well-dressed and well-fed man on the steps had been used to hear the plea of hunger put forward at once, and its omission puzzled him.

"Yes, I am hungry. You've been told by men who shun labor and who travel through the country, living on their wits and the misplaced sympathy of the good, of their hunger. They have lied. But I am hungry. I'll not tell you how many hours I've been without food. I'll not deny that the last time I had went for brandy. But for it I should have died before reaching here. I need food—yes, and drink too. I need money."

The man on the steps put his hand in his pocket.

"How much do you need?"

"I'll tell you," with desperation. "I have to say what you've often heard before. If you give me a five I shall spend five cents for food and five for liquor. I shall rest a little here, and then I shall go on to tell another man to-morrow the story I have told you to-day. I shall reach my journey's end some day, and you will have been one to help me, and I shall remember it with thanks. But you've asked me what I need. More than I expect, more—much more—than I dare hope."

And the man took his eyes from the face of the one on the steps, and instead of looking at the dirty street, his glance rested for a moment on the railroad station in sight in the distance.

"Well, how much?"

"If I had \$10 I wouldn't ask anything better in the world," then, a little fiercely. "I am not sure I'd ask anything in the next. I'd sell myself to you for \$10."

The rich man smiled for the first time in the whole interview, and said:

"I flatter myself I am better than some men you might find, men with less money, too, and haven't so very much—"

"How much?" The question was abrupt, but perfectly respectful. The tramp was evidently gaining a hope which he would not have dared to entertain a half hour before.

"A matter of \$10,000 or so. Of course the house here isn't mine. But I could afford to afford. But I couldn't afford to be cheated." There was doubt and sudden suspicion in the last sentence.

"On my word and honor as a—pshaw, what does it signify? I have not tied to you. Give me what you will. My thanks will be as true and genuine for little as for much."

The man on the steps took his hand from his pocket, and laid a \$10 piece in the hand of the dusty man standing one step below him.

"I never gave a penny to a beggar. I never gave food to a tramp. But you have the \$10 now. Keep it. But tell me now, are you an ordinary man?"

"I'll finish my sentence now, sir. On my honor as a gentleman, I have told you the truth. It was a question of life or death. I looked at the river as I crossed the bridge. Suppose I had not come here; suppose, suppose—He said the words drearily, but with a shudder. Then he turned to the rich man again, for the last words had been said to himself alone. "You have given me life, not food; a future, not money. If ever I can be of service to you I will be; if ever I can repay the debt of to-day—of course I don't mean the mere money—I will do it. I swear I will do it. What is your name? Tell me your age—your business. It may be I shall some time find you again."

The man on the top step took a card from his pocket, and wrote a line on it in pencil. The tramp took it and read in print: "Paul Hudson, druggist, Lakeville." And in pencil, "Twenty-four years of age."

"I should like to shake your hand, if you please."

"Certainly," said Paul Hudson.

As the tramp walked down the path to the street Paul Hudson watched him.

"The quality of mercy is not strained," But that fellow has strained \$10 out of my pockets. "It droppeth like the gentle rain from Heaven." And sure enough it is beginning to rain. "It is twice blessed. Well, I'll be hanged if I know whether it is or not."

And Paul Hudson went into the house.

CHAPTER II.

A young man sat in the well-cushioned seat of a palace sleeper and watched the snow fall slowly through the darkening air at the near close of a brief December day. Strong, but not graceful; noble-looking, not handsome; richly dressed, but not in a manner to attract notice; a face which spoke of sorrow, and on which there seemed to be the seal of peace, rather than what could be possibly called happiness. This was the man who watched the earth bending the shoulders of the hills to the white robe in which nature was wrapping it against the fierce cold of the coming winter.

A certain article in a newspaper by his side seemed to claim the attention of the young man. He took it up and read it for the tenth time at least.

Let us read it, too.

"A LUCKY MAN—Many of our readers have heard of the great case between Smith and Robinson, which has been before the courts in one form or another for more than 25 years. The last court decided it yesterday, and for the last time. The decision is absolutely final. The Robinsons have won. The Smiths and Robinsons who were interested in the case are all dead. In fact, the Robinson family which was interested years ago is now extinct, and the property goes to a distant heir. The lawyer who took the case years ago, when he was a young man, was satisfied of the justice of the claims of the Robinson family, and has worked for years without instructions. And in his old age he has won. Dismissing all expenses there remains a balance of some \$50,000, which goes to

Mr. Richard Robinson, of this city. Mr. Robinson received the news of his good luck to-day. He did not know that anything had been done in the case for years; he did not know that deaths among distant relatives had left him the only heir. It was a complete surprise to him. An imperative invitation comes from Mr. Milton Muckle, the lawyer, who has clung to the case for so long, and Mr. Robinson, who yesterday was a poor clerk of five hundred a year, is now one of the richest men in our little city, and to-morrow he leaves us to remain for a time the guest of the lawyer, of whom he had until to-day never even heard."

The young man leaned back in his seat and looked thoughtful.

Doubtless the reader, who had just read of the lucky man, would himself look thoughtful if his name were Richard Robinson.

If Robinson's fortune had come to him ten years before, life, which had always been hard, would always have been easy. Five years ago he could have won love if he had tried, and would have tried if luck, or fate, or something, had not been against him in every venture he made in the courts of fickle fortune. A few years ago and he would have given comfort to a loved mother, to whom he could no longer render no other service than to beautify the place where she was to rest in dreamless sleep "until the judgment." Five months ago and toil, pain, privation, despair, had not been his. But at thirty-five life holds a great deal for any man who has a strong body, an honest soul, whatever sorrow and disappointment may have done for him in the past. So this man sat thinking of his money, of the happiness it would bring him, of the good he could do with it; and this despite the fact that his face could never look quite happy again. For peace—not happiness—was, as we said, the sign and seal which good fortune had set upon him.

The tramp stopped. The brakeman shouted something that sounded exactly as hieroglyphics look. (Did the reader ever wonder whether the only literary men in ancient Egypt were the direct ancestors of modern brakemen?) Mr. Robinson asked a gentleman near him the name of the place, learned it was Rockland, and there he was, and got out.

Several men shouted the names of the hotels they represented, and did it for the benefit of the passengers who had left the train, although one would have thought that they intended to call to some persons already at the hotels, and a long way off, by the noise they made.

Mr. Robinson found a man who had a hack. He hesitated for the man mentioned the fact, and he ordered himself taken to Mr. Muckle's.

When the hack stopped and Mr. Robinson got out, he must have impressed the driver as being a lunatic of some sort.

"I thought this was Rockland."

"It is."

"Well, I wanted to go to Mr. Muckle's."

"This is the place."

"Where is Lakeville?"

"Thirty miles from here. And your fare is 35 cents."

Mr. Robinson paid it, and the hackman drove off.

It was too late to arrive for a visit, but the well-trained servants at Mr. Muckle's had had their instructions, and it was not many minutes before Mr. Robinson was settled in a large and handsomely furnished room.

A servant brought him a note:

"The compliments of Mr. Muckle, who regrets that business which cannot be delayed, prevents his meeting Mr. Robinson to-night. Will Mr. Robinson make himself perfectly at home? The servants are directed to attend to his every order."

"A cool welcome," said Richard Robinson to himself, but a hearty supper, retired late, and slept soundly—and late too.

"A cool welcome," was Richard Robinson's first thought when he awoke in the morning. There was a rushing to and fro of hasty steps, doors were opened and closed; there were voices hushed but eager. It was a cool welcome; for, when the almost forgotten guest left his room, he learned the fearful truth. Mr. Milton Muckle had been found murdered in his bed that morning.

CHAPTER III.

The coroner's jury examined the witnesses separately. Mr. Robinson was examined as a mere matter of form. He saw no one else in the room who had or would testify. He had his luggage taken to the hotel, he had his dinner and then he walked briskly out into the country for miles. It was all so horrible to him. Here was the man who had done so much for him, the man who had found him, though justly his, could have been won only by patience and long hard work. It was true that this man had had from the property all the fees for his services which the work warranted, but the service was of a kind which demanded more than money as payment for it. And this man was dead—dead by the hand of a murderer—before he could thank him. It was terrible—horrible—he could think of nothing else than the fate of it. The man who had been his friend.

In the early evening he came back. The verdict had been given. The landlord said:

"They've said it was Mr. Muckle's nephew. I for one don't believe it. I've known them both for years, and know they are stubborn and obstinate. Mr. Muckle has been a stubborn man; his nephew a stubborn boy—he's scarcely more than a boy yet. They had hard words last night about a girl the young man intended to marry. The old man, who has no other heir than his nephew, said he would leave all his money to some public charity unless the young man gave it up, and the poor fellow was in his uncle's power. He used to be rich. Lost every cent in a speculation three months ago, and \$25,000 borrowed from his uncle with it. They almost came to blows last night. The servants knew it and testified to it, and the young man admitted it. He didn't leave the house until after midnight. It looks bad. They're arrested him and put him in jail. Every man in town but myself believes he is guilty. I don't. I believe a man he discharged from his employ did it."

As our story is nearly done, let us say at once that the landlord was right, and the

rest were wrong. Ten years later a death-bed confession gave the truth.

Robinson lit his cigar and sat on the balcony at the hotel. The moon came up, and the night was cool and bright and beautiful. His thoughts went to the dead man, then back to himself. "How sweet and bright life is," he thought; "how I pity this man who has lost his."

A man rode by swiftly, and he had a mask on. Another one, and another! The landlord came out on the balcony behind Robinson.

"Curse the fools," he said, "it seems as if the town had all gone mad together. Do you see what it means?"

Down on the night wind came the sound of blows beating on a strong wall. Robinson looked up and said:

"How horrible! It means lynching, doesn't it?"

"Yes," said the landlord, "that is just what it means. They won't listen; they won't wait. They will have the doors down in an hour, and Paul Hudson is as innocent as I am."

"What is the name?"

The tones were low and even.

"Paul Hudson."

"Please wait here a minute," said Robinson.

In less than a minute he was back holding a package in his hand.

"Keep that till morning," he said, "and then take off the other envelope and give the rest to the one addressed within. Do not open it until morning."

And, with a face whiter than the moonlight which fell upon it, he walked down the steps into the street. As he raised his hat to the landlord the latter fancied he saw more happiness in the white face than he would have believed an hour before it could have given expression to.

"Keep back," said a hoarse voice from beneath a mask.

"Not so," said Robinson; "I must see your leader."

"Well, hurry up, then; moments are precious."

A half-minute later Robinson stood with the most active men among the lynchers, and in the very shadow of the jail.

"Gentlemen," he said, very seriously and very quietly, "you must make no mistakes. I am Richard Robinson. I slept at Mr. Muckle's house last night. Paul Hudson is innocent. You are wrong about this murder—entirely and utterly wrong. I did it!"

And he went with them quietly.

CHAPTER IV.

Paul Hudson has a card which he keeps with care, and which he is not ashamed, strong man though he is, to cry over sometimes. It is a business card, with his age—many years younger than he is now—written on it in pencil. And on the back: "You saved me from a suicide's grave in August. I save you from a worse fate to-night. We are quits. RICHARD ROBINSON."—Baltimore Sun.

Damp Houses and How to Remedy Them.

Damp houses are a fruitful source of discomfort and disease, and yet, as important as their influence is, it is amazing how seldom means are taken by which the evil may be prevented. When a house is said to "well drained," however true this may be of the plans adopted for carrying away the refuse water of domestic operations, it very rarely means that the site has been drained to prevent damp.

When experienced medical men see house after house built on foundations of deep, retentive clay, inefficiently drained, they foretell the certain appearance among the inhabitants of catarrh, rheumatism, scrofula, and a host of other diseases of a similar nature. Where a damp house exists in connection with a deficient sewerage, drainage or a cesspool full of decomposing material—an unfortunate combination too often met in the country—suburban houses—other and more dangerous diseases, as typhus fever, are induced. The watery mist of fog arising from a damp soil affords an admirable vehicle for the subtle and deadly exhalation of the decomposing drainage matter, by which they are too certainly conveyed to the interior of the house. And, physiologically dependent upon the condition of affairs, a mental as well as a physical depression is induced, which drive those subjected to the temporary relief afforded by the use of ardent spirits and other stimulants. Thus, in this, as well as in other departments of sanitation, the connection between physical and moral disease is easily traced. There can be no doubt as to the increased pecuniary and sanitary value of land suitable for building sites, arising from efficient drainage being carried out. The greater the inducements offered by the healthy condition of a neighborhood, the greater the value of the land for building sites. An excess of moisture in any district inevitably influences the local climate, both as regards dryness and temperature.

The most effectual preventive of damp houses is the complete drainage of the site on which they stand. All other remedies are but remedies in name, more especially when the soil is very damp; in such a case lead or slate placed round the bottom courses of the foundation with water-proof cement may prove efficient for the time, but will ultimately become ineffectual. The system of drainage for carrying off surplus water from the land is different from that adopted for conveying away domestic refuse water, etc. In the latter it is essential, nay, imperative, that the drain should be water-tight, capable of conveying the water admitted to their interior immediately to its ultimate destination, but incapable of passing any of it to the surrounding soil through which the water of the drain should find its way into the interior of the drain, which should be of such a shape as to facilitate the removal of the water to its destination, preventing its return to the soil.

In laying and forming the drains the following points should be attended to: The first to be observed is the uniformity of slope or level of the bottom of the

trenches. The method of accomplishing the perfectly uniform slope of the drains, from their highest point to their outfall, is by the use of level-rods or the spirit-level. Not so with the level-rods, as following description of their uses will show: Three rods are required, two of them two feet long and the third as much more than two feet long as the drain is deep—that is, if the drain is three feet six inches deep, the rod must be five feet six inches long. The rods are strips of wood with cross pieces nine inches long on the upper end. The two shorter rods are planted upright, one on the ground on a level with the field at the head of the drain, and the other at the lower end, and a person stands at one of them looking over the top, with his eye on a line with the other. A second man then takes the longest rod and holds it upright in the drain, just touching the bottom, and walks along from one end of the drain to the other, keeping it in an upright position. If, while it is moving along, its top always appears on a line with the tops of the other two—as seen by the person looking along the three—the fall of the drain is uniform; but if it rises above this line at any one place, the bottom is too high there, and requires to be reduced; if it falls below the line the bottom is too low, and must be raised. In this way the fall may be rendered perfectly uniform. In cutting drains the best way is to commence with the main drain, and at its lowest point, working gradually up to the highest. An intelligent mason or carpenter may be intrusted to make drains of this sort at a very little cost, and we are sure no house-owner who cares for the health of his family will ever regret the investment.—Builder and Woodworker.

The Chinese Pharmacopoeia.

The medical remedies of the Chinese afford a promising field of inquiry to the student of curiosities. No one who is not fairly acquainted with the pseudo-philosophies of China, the strange affinities which are supposed to exist between the five points of the compass, the five colors, the five flavors, the five elements, and other fanciful phenomena, can rightly understand the principles on which certain substances are supposed to be antagonistic to certain humors and conditions of the body. For a rough list of the medicaments in common use in China, one has only to study the ordinary Customs returns, which will be quite sufficient to show the very extraordinary character of the articles which go to make up the Chinese pharmacopoeia. Some of these medicines are, no doubt, useful enough.

The Chinese are known to have a wide knowledge of herbs and simples, and their primitive ideas of surgery are in many instances founded on true principles. A case in point is the practice of pinching and scraping the skin with a view of drawing out internal inflammation. A slight "touch of the sun" is unmistakably relieved by the hard tweaking of the skin between the eyes and on the breast with a couple of copper cash, until a livid red line or patch is raised upon the surface; and though the process is not agreeable, the result certainly goes far to justify the principle of counter irritation on which the treatment is based. Many of the medicines in use, however, are exceedingly coarse and disgusting, and we should hope are never resorted to except in extreme cases. A very curious method of procedure is adopted by the doctor who is called in to see a patient. The sick man does not open the interview by detailing his symptoms, as with us. That would involve an insult to the perspicacity of his adviser. It is the doctor who, by feeling the patient's pulse, is expected to detail the various ailments of his patient, which can be correctly diagnosed by a clever practitioner from the slow or hurried beats. He then writes out his prescription, pockets his horse money or chair money as the fee is called, and takes his departure for the time. In most instances the medicine prescribed is of a very cheap and often very nasty description; there are, however, drugs, highly prized among the faculty in China, which are extremely precious.

Diamond dust is looked upon as a dangerous poison in India and the West; yet there are other precious stones, rare indeed in China, which are said to have a wonderful efficacy in curing certain disorders. A detailed description of one of these peculiarities before us. It consists of white and red coral, rubies or jacinth, pearls, emeralds, musk and one or two earths in various quantities, crushed into powder, rolled into pills with gum and rose water, and coated with gold leaf. As a poison, one would think this composition must be quite invaluable; or as a titbit for an ostrich, did such birds exist in China; but as a medicine it is quite unique. It is said, however, to be an invaluable cure for small-pox, measles, scarlet fever, and in fact all diseases which arise from blood-poisoning, and break out in cutaneous eruptions. The strengthening qualities of the preparation are said even on European testimony to be quite remarkable, and the old Jesuits who flourished here during the early part of the present dynasty deliberately affirm that they have seen men snatched from the last convulsions of death by its judicious use. Another famous remedy is called *ku-chiu*, or bitter wine. This remains one of the bitter cure sold by chemists in England some five-and-twenty years ago. The preparation seems to be a strong and invigorating tonic; it is said to have great efficacy in cases of bile, indigestion, colic and intermittent fevers, and to be an excellent preservative of health, as taken much as Europeans take the nauseous waters of Carlsbad and Aix, the first thing in the morning on an empty stomach. Its ingredients are neither so indigestible nor so expensive as those of the other. It is composed of spirit, aloes, myrrh, frankincense and saffron. These are to be mixed and exposed to the sun for one month, the bottle to be well shaken from time to time, and the fluid used when it is perfectly clear, and yet impregnated with the various contents. These two remedies are not of Chinese origin. They are said to have been brought from India, where they were originally discovered. Readers of the "Hung Lou Meng," one of the most charmingly written novels in the whole world, will remember the burlesque prescription proposed by a Buddhist priest for

the ailments of Mademoiselle Pauchai. It consisted of the pistils of a white mountain flower or peony which had bloomed in the Summer, of a white poppy that had bloomed in the Autumn, and of a white plum blossom that had bloomed in the Winter; of each of these twelve ounces. All these pistils were to be kept over till the vernal equinox of the succeeding year, dried in the sun, mixed into powder, and dissolved into twelve a-ace-weight of rain and the same amount of pure dew, hoar-frost and snow-flakes. All of which must have 111 on that particular day. These ingredients were to be mixed in equal proportions, made into pills the size of a dragon's eye (lungan), and placed in an old porcelain jar, which must be buried under the root of a flower. When the patient felt her illness coming on, she was to dig up the jar, and swallow one of the pills in a hot decoction of juniper bark. It is, of course, evident that the due preparation of this medicine depends upon an impossible concatenation of coincidences; and it is just a bit of graceful humor at the expense of the medicals of China, whose abracadabra and affectation of mysticism are a fitting object of ridicule. The fact is, indeed, that the description is scarcely overdrawn, and anyone who has had the patience or the curiosity to dip into many of the books which deal with the pharmacopoeia in China will testify to the existence of so-called remedies almost, if not quite, as preposterous. In many instances, as in one for toothache, the chances are that the patient would be either dead or cured weeks before the first ingredients of the marvelous panacea had been obtained.—North China Herald.

Old Times in New England.

At the time of Longfellow's boyhood in Portland, Me., the fashions of the Revolution period were just passing away. The speech of the people was homely and unadorned with old Yankee accents. Cows were pastured on Munjoy hill. There were few private carriages. A stage conveyed passengers to Boston, but much of the intercourse with other seacoast towns was by sailing vessels. When, afterward, the young Longfellow went to college, they made the journey by coasters through Casco Bay to Harpswell. The two newspapers were published weekly. There was no theatre or other place of amusement, but West India rum was plentiful and in daily use. There were learned lawyers and clergymen, but it is not probable that there was much in the intellectual life of the town to favor the development of a poet.

In the towns near the seacoast, from Newport to Portland, there was a great similarity in domestic architecture. A large number of the better class of the old houses have been torn down or re-built. In Boston and vicinity very few remain; although in Charlestown, Cambridge, Salem, Newburyport, Portsmouth, Exeter, Dover and towns farther eastward, we can still behold the typical New-England mansion. It is simple in size and stately in form. It is associated with reminiscences of ruffles, shoe-buckles, silver-topped canes, courtly manners and hospitality. It is the house of the judge, the prosperous doctor of divinity or of medicine, or of the merchant whose ships have brought him spices, ivory and gold dust from over sea. It is generally of three stories, the third being somewhat abridged; and the form is quadrangular, fifty feet on one side. Various extensions and out-buildings are in the rear and sometimes on the side. The front door opens into a wide hall, from which a grand staircase leads to the upper stories. The hall is wainscoted, and hung with rather stiff portraits. The stairway is broad and the steps are wide, giving an easy ascent to the landings. Twisted and carved balusters support the handrail, each one wrought separately in some quaint device. There are four large, square rooms on the ground floor, each with its open fireplace and elaborately carved mantelpiece. The walls are thick, like those of a fortress, and the windows are recessed like embrasures.

Those who are accustomed to the card-board structures of our time, whether in the form of Italian villas, Swiss chalets or white-pine Gothic, have a strange sensation in visiting these solid dwellings. There is an air of repose in them, an idea of amplitude and permanence. One feels that the builders must have been large-minded serene men. A fashionable dwelling of fifteen feet front on the new land of the Back Bay in Boston furnishes a perfect antithesis. The ancient houses were well placed, in grounds of some extent, on the crest of a natural elevation, or near a grove, with broad, grassy lawns, bordered by elms and oaks; and dotted with birch and spruces, and with clumps of flowering shrubs. The distinguishing features of the old towns of New England are still the superb mansions. They are generally painted buff or cream-white, having green blinds and high and heavy chimney; and in their picturesque situations and surroundings they give an almost poetical charm to the landscape.—F. Underwood.

The Growth of the United States.

Francis A. Walker, the Superintendent of the last census, contributes to the October Century a paper abounding in interesting and important facts gleaned from the census returns since the first enumeration in 1790. In discussing the condition of the United States, at the tenth census in 1880, he says:

The period between 1850 and 1880 has been marked by the astonishingly rapid spread of population over the vast region brought under the flag of the United States by the purchase of Louisiana, the annexation of Texas, and the cessions from Mexico. The 980,000 square miles of territory occupied by settlements in 1880 have become 1,570,000. Of these, 884,820 have been between 2 and 6 inhabitants to the square mile; 373,890 have been between 6 and 18; 554,300 between 18 and 45; 232,010 between 45 and 90; while 24,550 have been in excess of 90 inhabitants to the square mile. The population of the United States is now 50,155,783. The frontier line of settlement is, in general, the one hundredth degree of longitude as far north as the forty-second parallel of latitude, and thence northerly the ninety-eighth degree.

The distribution of the population, according to dominant topographical features, may thus be stated: On the immediate Atlantic coast, north, 2,616,892; middle, 4,375,184; south, 875,987; on the Gulf coast, 1,055,851; in the hilly mountainous region of the northeast, 1,693,226; in the mountainous region of the central Atlantic slope, 2,344,233; in the immediate region of the lakes, 3,049,470; on the table-lands and elevated plateaus of the interior, 5,716,326; in the south central mountainous region, 2,695,085; in the Ohio Valley, 2,442,792; on the south interior table-lands and plateaus, 3,627,478; in the Mississippi belt, south, 710,298; north, 1,991,982; in the southwest central region, 2,932,807; in the central region, 5,723,485; in the Missouri River belt, 835,455; on the Western plains, 3,331,819; in the heavily timbered region of the Northwest, 1,222,337; in the Cordilleran region, 932,311; on the Pacific coast, 715,789.

Although the territory of the United States extends to the forty-ninth parallel, only one-tenth of the population is found north of the forty-third. But so dense is the settlement below this line, that, by the time the forty-first parallel is reached, about one-third of the population has been covered; the next single degree extends the proportion nearly to one-half, while more than two-thirds lie north of the thirty-eighth parallel. Between the forty-third and the thirty-eighth dwell 29,501,000 of our people. In 1870, 52.8 per cent. of the population was east of the eighty-fourth meridian. In 1880, only 49.4 per cent. was so placed. Eighty-four per cent. of the population is found east of the ninety-first meridian; 97 per cent. east of the ninety-seventh. \* \* \*

The foreign elements of our population have varied widely since 1850. At that time foreigners constituted 9.5 per cent. of the total population; they now constitute 13.3 per cent. Of the foreign residents of 1880, 43.5 per cent. were Irish; 26.4, Germans; 13.9, English and Welsh; 6.7, British Americans; while the Scandinavians formed less than 1 per cent. Since that time the proportion of Irish to the other foreign elements has steadily declined. Of the arrivals in the ten years ending in 1880, the Germans were but 25 per cent.; of those in the ten years ending in 1860, they were 37 per cent. Between 1860 and 1870 other foreign elements began to assume importance through the fast-increasing immigration of Swedes and Norwegians across the ocean, and of Canadians across our northern border. We have seen that the Irish of 1850 constituted 43.5 per cent. of the total foreign population. In 1860 this proportion had fallen to 38.9, and in 1870 still further to 33.3. Although the statistics of nationality at the census of 1880 are not yet published, it is not probable that the Irish today constitute more than 27 per cent. of the foreign population of the country.

Suspension Bridges.

Of all engineering structures, suspension bridges are the most easily acted upon by wind. Their primitive methods of construction were defective through excessive flexibility. The accident which happened to the Roche-Bernard bridge on the Vilaine, on the 23rd of October, 1872, and the successive injuries to the Menai bridge in 1826, 1836 and 1839, may be cited as examples. The chains of the latter bridge, though clashing together violently, bore the strain; but a number of transverse pieces and suspension rods broke, and 100 feet of iron hung in the air in 1839. According to the bridgekeeper, the undulations of the roadway attained an amplitude of 13 or 16 feet, and the greatest deflections were observed at the distance of a quarter of the span from the piers. It is evident that everything gives way in these irregular undulations, which are different for the chains and the roadway. The Menai bridge was strengthened by various means. The Roche-Bernard bridge was provided with a counter cable, curving upward and placed under the roadway, and notable progress has been achieved in the design of more recent works. The Americans, in devolving the principle of the stiffening girder, have also added a series of straight and sloping cables coming from the top of the piers and supporting various parts of the roadway. They have, moreover, in some large bridges anchored the roadway to the rocks by stays underneath, a method which is not free from objections any more than the parabolic counter cable of the Roche-Bernard bridge, for the variations in temperature may at one time loosen and, at another time stretch these underlays. In the Old system, as applied to the Albert Bridge, Chelsea, the upper stays, starting from the tops of the piers and ending at the various parts of the roadway, are connected with the vertical suspension rods at divers points of crossing, which increases the total rigidity. Sometimes, as at the Lambeth bridge, rigidity is obtained by the introduction of cross-bracing or diagonal bars between the suspension rods; as at Pittsburgh, the chain itself is made rigid, assuming the appearance of two sloping lattice girders of variable height, and attached to their narrow extremities, at one end to each other in the center of the span, and at the other end to the tops of the piers. The great transversal inclination in certain bridges to the two funicular planes, by which the cables, spreading out at the tops of the piers, come together in the center of the span, affords a powerful resistance to oscillations. With these improvements the suspension system, without losing its inherent lightness, is protected from irregular undulations when exposed to wind; so that the wind pressure merely acts on it, like on any other structure, in producing an increased molecular strain which has to be provided for by strengthening the parts liable to be affected.

O Love! Love!  
Love is the life of life,  
And Brinsell  
When, in the  
You married  
With only  
Heart to heart  
You follow  
Romantic love  
Nor slighted  
So have we  
How Hero was  
Impassioned  
She was the  
And wrapt him  
Whenever he  
With nothing  
And woe  
For Love was  
The slyer the  
And kissing  
Wherever  
So thousands  
And still the  
Still Hymn  
And hitherto,  
Most couples  
To follow the  
And quietly  
But now they  
Bought and sold  
Like a house  
Midnight  
Moonlight  
The glance of  
The shadowy  
I do not wish  
But every  
To the moon  
And the  
Till the high  
Before the  
And the bride  
Where pearls  
That would  
His Pa  
"If the dog  
out I guess I  
temperance  
failed to do,"  
grocery man,  
cheese and too  
of a box.  
"Well, for  
you been doing  
asked the  
went to the  
the boy's father  
ounces of cheese  
"If you was  
your tricks on  
lasting life out  
cussed fool that  
reform school.  
this morning, and  
I should have  
have you done  
pose."  
"No, I didn't  
the liver out of  
"How was it  
as he charged  
boy's father."  
"Well, I'll  
pa I won't tr'd  
pa belongs to a  
when there is a  
here, he drinks  
thing last week  
apron affair, or  
and every night  
day, and his boy  
in front of a  
keep yeast. Ever  
fever with her  
been a terror,  
ought to be don  
dug trick was p  
pretty sober th  
happened to th  
Third Ward has  
He will jump up  
and bring a ha  
So I got the boy  
and Monday ni  
the house and to  
along to make th  
pin a handkerchie  
make the dog tag  
and the dog to l  
you'd a died.  
dignified and im  
gone through a  
walk straight, an  
door the boy po  
"Fetch it," the  
land, but he is  
forget it. Pa is  
the dog truck  
took his hat pa  
said "get out,"  
up toward the st  
and the boy po  
and said, "fetch  
bark and went f  
and part of pa's  
climb up the st  
and the dog pull  
an old lady's r  
whole back rear  
opened the door  
front of his coat  
the back was go  
arm and he said  
to kick me, thin  
told him I was  
asked him if any  
he said:  
"M (hic) att  
land dog chawin'  
Why didn't you  
I told pa there  
must be careful  
have no pa at  
asked me, as he  
the back of his  
become of his co  
was no dog, and  
ably caught his  
fence down the  
the dog and a bo  
be, and for me to  
for the doctor.  
said, "this is a  
and I went for  
wanted to be ca  
go mad." I told  
said he would k  
some powders a  
any more before  
man. Passyatt  
and they can ne  
down him; but  
will you' cause  
to the police a  
would shoot the  
as she gets thro  
tell her, and she



## MODERN MARRIAGES.

O Love! Love! Love! what times were those  
Long ere the age of belles and beaux,  
And Brussels lace and silk and hose,  
When, in the green Arcadian close,  
You married Psyche under the rose,  
With only the grass for a wedding!  
You followed Nature's sweet command—  
Roaming loving through the land,  
Nor signed for a Diamond Wedding.

So here we read, in classic Ovid,  
How Hero watched for her beloved,  
Impatient young, Leander,  
She was the fairest of the fair,  
And wrapt him round with her golden hair,  
Whenever he landed golden and bare,  
With nothing to eat and nothing to wear,  
And wetter than any gander;  
For Love was Love, and better than money—  
The slyer the thief, the sweeter the honey—  
And kissing 'twixt clover all the world over,  
Wherever Cupid might wander!

So thousands of years have come and gone,  
And still the moon is shining on,  
Still hymen's torch is lighted,  
And hither, in this land of the west,  
Most couples in love have thought it best  
To follow the ancient way of the rest,  
And quietly get united.

But now True Love, you're growing old—  
Bought and sold with silver and gold,  
Like a house, or a horse and carriage!  
Midnight talks,  
Moonlight walks,  
The glance of the eye and the sweetheart sigh,  
The shadowy haunts with no one by,  
I do not wish to disengage;

But every kiss  
Has a price for its bliss,  
In the modern code of marriage,  
And the compact sweet is not complete,  
Till the high contracting parties meet  
Before the altar of Mammon;  
And the bride must be led to a silver bower,  
Where pearls and rubies fall in a shower  
That would frighten Jupiter-Ammon!

—E. C. Steedman.

## His Pa Has Got 'Em Again.

"If the dogs in our neighborhood hold  
I guess I can do something that all the  
temperance societies in this town have  
failed to do," says the bad boy to the  
grocery man, as he cut off a piece of  
cheese and took a handful of crackers out  
of a box.

"Well, for heaven's sake, what have  
you been doing now, you little reprobate,"  
asked the grocery man, as he  
went to the desk and charged  
the boy's father with a pound and four  
ounces of cheese and a pound of crackers.  
"If you was my boy and played any of  
your tricks on me I would mail the ever-  
lasting life out of you. Your father is a  
cursed fool that he don't send you to the  
reform school. The hired girl was over  
this morning, and says your father is sick,  
and I should think he would be. What  
have you done? Poisoned him I suppose."

"No, I didn't poison him, I just scared  
the liver out of him, that's all."  
"How was it," asked the grocery man,  
as he charged up a pound of prunes to the  
boy's father.

"Well, I'll tell you, but if you ever tell  
pa I won't be here any more. You see,  
pa belongs to all the secret societies, and  
when there is a grand lodge or anything  
here, he drinks awfully. There was some-  
thing last week, some sort of a leather  
apron affair, or a sash over the shoulder,  
and every night he was out till the next  
day, and his breath smelt all the time like  
in front of a vinegar store, where they  
keep yeast. Ever since ma took her hay  
fever with her up to Lake Superior, pa has  
been a terror, and I thought something  
ought to be done. Since that variegated  
dog trick was played on him he has been  
pretty sober till ma went away, and I  
happened to think of a dog a boy in the  
Third Ward has got, that will do tricks.  
He will jump up and take a man's hat off,  
and bring a handkerchief, and all that.  
So I got the boy to come up on our street,  
and Monday night, about dark, I got in  
the house and told the boy when pa came  
along to make the dog take his hat, and to  
pin a handkerchief to pa's coat tail and  
make the dog take that, and then for him  
and the dog to lie out for home. Well,  
you'd a' heard. Pa came up the street as  
dignified and important as though he had  
gone through a bankruptcy, and tried to  
walk straight, and just as he got near the  
door the boy pointed to pa's hat and said:  
"Fetch it." The dog is a big Newfoundland,  
but he is a jumper, and don't you forget  
it. Pa is short and thick, and when the  
dog struck him on the shoulder and took  
his hat pa almost fell over, and then said  
"get out," and he kicked and backed up  
toward the step, and then turned around  
and the boy pointed to the handkerchief  
and said, "fetch it," and the dog gave one  
bark and went for it, and got hold of it  
and part of pa's duster, and pa tried to  
climb up the steps on his hands and feet,  
and the dog pulled the other way, and it's  
an old last year's duster, anyway, and the  
whole back breadth come out, and when I  
opened the door there pa stood with the  
front of his coat and the sleeves on, but  
the back was gone, and I took hold of his  
arm and he said "Get out," and was going  
to kick me, thinking I was a dog, and I  
told him I was his own little boy, and  
asked him if anything was the matter, and  
he said:

"M (hic) after enough. New F (hic)  
had dog chasing me last hour on half.  
Why didn't you come and k (hic) ill 'em."  
I told pa there was no dog at all, and he  
must be careful of his health or I wouldn't  
have no pa at all. He looked at me and  
asked me, as he felt for the place where  
the back of his linen duster was, what had  
become of his coat tail and hat, if there  
was no dog, and I told him he had prob-  
ably caught his coat on that barbed-wire  
fence down the street, and he said he saw  
the dog and a boy just as plain as could  
be, and for me to help him up stairs and go  
for the doctor. I got him in bed and he  
said, "this is a hellish climate my boy,"  
and I went for the doctor. Pa said he  
wanted to be cauterized, so he wouldn't  
go mad. I told the doc the joke, and he  
said he would keep it up, and he gave pa  
some powders and told him if he drank  
any more before Christmas he was a dead  
man. Pa says he has learned his lesson,  
and that he can never get any more poison  
down him; but don't you give me away,  
will you? cause he would go and complain  
to the police about the dog and they would  
shoot it. Ma will be back as soon as  
she gets through sneezing, and I will  
tell her, and she will give me a chromo,

cause she don't like to have pa drink only  
between meals. Well, good day. There's  
an Italian got a bear that performs in the  
street, and I am going to find where he is  
showing and feed the bear a cayenne pep-  
per lozenger, and see him clean out the  
Polack settlement. Good bye."

And the boy went to look for the bear.—  
Pock's Sun.

## How the Soldiers Played it on Mr. Hoffenstein.

"Mr. Hoffenstein," said Herman, as he  
folded up a pair of pants and placed them  
on a pile, "if you don't have any objections  
I would like to get from de store away von  
efening und go mit de soldiers to de Span-  
ish Fort?"

"Vell, Herman, I think you had better  
keep away from de soldiers," replied Hoff-  
enstein, "un stay mit de store, because,  
you know, you don't can't put any depen-  
dence mit de soldiers. I will tell you vhy.  
Von day vile I was in Vicksburg, during  
de var, a cock-eye soldier come in my store  
mit an old bugle in his hand, und he looks  
around. I asks him vat he vant, und he  
buys a couple of undershirts, den he dells  
me to keep his bundle und de bugle be-  
hind de counter until he comes back.  
After de cock-eyed soldier vent de store  
out, some more soldiers come in und walk  
all around vile dey look at de goods.

"Shentlemen," I says, 'do you vant any-  
ding?' 'Ve are shust looking to see vat  
you haf,' said von of dem, und after avile  
anoder says, 'Bill, shust look here at the  
bugle, de vey ding de captain dolt us to  
get. You know ve don't haf any bugle in  
de company for three months. How much  
you ask for dot bugle?' I dells dem dot  
I can't sell de bugle because it belongs  
a man vut shust vent out. 'I vill gif you  
fifty dollars for it,' says the soldier,  
pulling his money out. I dells him I don't  
can sell it, because it wasn't mine. 'He  
dells me von hundred dollars,' he said. Den  
he offers me von hundred und twenty-five  
dollars. My gr-r-ricious, Herman, I vant  
to sell de bugle so bad dat I vistles. De  
soldier dells me vile dey was leaving de  
store dot if I buy de bugle from de man  
vut owns it dey vill gif me \$125 for it. I  
dell dem I vill do it. I sees a chance,  
you know, Herman, to make some money  
by de operation. Ven de cock-eyed sol-  
dier come in he says, 'Git me my bundle  
und bugle; I got to go to camp. I says  
'My fren, don't you vant to sell your bugle.  
He dells me no, und I says: 'My little boy  
Leopold, vat plays in de store sees de  
bugle und he goes all round crying shust  
as loud as he can, because he don't got it.  
Six times I dakes him in de yard und vips  
him und he comes right back und cries for  
dot bugle. It shows you know how much  
drouble a man vill haf mit a family. I  
vill gif you den dollars for it shust to please  
little Leopold. De soldier vont dake it,  
und at last it offers him fifty dollars und  
says. 'Vell I dake fifty because I can't  
vast any more time, I haf to go de camp.'  
After he goes away I goes to de door und  
vatches for de soldiers vat vont de bugle.  
I sees dem passing along de street, und I  
says: 'My frens, I have got de bugle,'  
und dey says, 'Vell, vy don't you blow it?'  
My gr-r-ricious, Herman, vat you dink?  
All dem soldiers belong to de same crowd,  
und dey make de trick to vindle me.  
Levi Cohen across de street, den he dells  
me, und every day he gets boys to blow horns  
in front of my store, so as to make me  
dink how I was vindle. Herman, I dink  
you had better stay mit de store."

Curiosities of the Patent Office.  
Some of the applications made for  
patents are very amusing; but how-  
ever funny the idea, if it is only origi-  
nal with the applicant, the patent can  
be secured. The rights of the Ameri-  
can inventor are sacred, and no  
commissioner of patent can in-  
fringe upon them. It will be  
sad news to many a prudent  
housewife to learn that every time  
she pricks a hole in an egg with a pin  
she is violating the patent of an Ameri-  
can inventor; but such is the case.  
Years ago an inventive genius devoted  
himself to discovering a method to pre-  
vent eggs from cracking during the  
process of boiling. He solved the  
problem by picking a pin-hole in one  
end of the egg, through which the air  
in the shell was allowed to escape, and  
the pin-hole he duly patented accord-  
ing to law. Precisely how he manages  
to collect his royalty is a mystery; but  
the fact remains that he has a legal  
claim for royalty on every pin-hole  
made in an egg before boiling.

An application has recently been  
made through Munn & Co. for the pa-  
tent of a machine to prevent young  
orphan chickens from being lonely.  
This is an invention which should, and  
probably will, commend itself to Mr.  
Bergh. The inventor claims that hun-  
dreds of chickens hatched out in the  
artificial incubators become lonely be-  
cause they miss the "cluck! cluck!" of  
the mother hen, which is the lullaby of  
all well-regulated chickens hatched in  
the natural way, and many are killed  
by this loneliness. He has arranged a  
system of clock-work which produces  
a noise somewhat similar to that of  
the hen, which he proposes to attach  
to the incubator, and on this machine  
the patent is asked.

A patent has issued on a clog for  
fowls, designed to prevent them from  
scratching in gardens. It consists of  
a wire in the shape of a hair-pin, sharp  
at the points. This is attached to the  
feet of fowl in such a way that when  
it attempts to scratch, the points enter  
the ground, and prevent the claws  
from reaching it. Hens have ever been  
the subject of much patient thought on  
the part of inventors. A nest designed  
to deceive them into laying more than  
the one egg daily, which every respect-  
able bird contributes to the farmer's  
larder, has been devised and patented.  
It has a false bottom, through which  
the egg drops as soon as laid, and the  
patient hen, feeling that she has failed  
in her duty, proceeds to lay another

and another and another until her  
treasury becomes exhausted or she dis-  
covers the deception. A bee-hive has  
been patented, the doors of which are  
attached to the hen-roost in such a  
manner that when the fowls go to  
roost they close the hive and thus se-  
cure the inmates against the ravages  
of the bee moth, and at daylight, when  
the hens leave the roost, the hive doors  
are opened and the bees are opened  
and the bees set at liberty.

Even the faithful horse has been  
made the subject of optical delusions  
by the inventors. A patent has been  
secured for what is known as a horse  
fence. It consists simply of a wire  
frame placed over the head of the horse  
so that when he approaches a fence  
he sees the wires above his head  
mistakes them for part of the fence,  
and concludes that it is too high for  
him to leap. These are some of the  
optical delusions of the patent office.  
The reader who desires to investigate  
the subject further is respectfully re-  
ferred to that highly interesting col-  
lection of literature known as the  
"patent office reports."

## VARIETIES.

A doctor named Royston had sued Peter  
Bennett for his bill, long overdue, for at-  
tending the wife of the latter. Alexander H.  
Stephens was on the Bennett side, and Robert  
Toombs, then Senator of the United States,  
was for Dr. Royston. The doctor proved the  
number of his visits, their value according to  
local custom, and his own authority to do  
medical practice. Mr. Stephens told his client  
that the physician had made out his case, and  
as there was nothing to rebut or offset the  
claim, the only thing left to do was to pay it.

"No," said Peter; "I hired you to speak  
in my case, and now speak."  
Mr. Stephens told him there was nothing to  
say; he had looked on to see that it was  
made out, and it was.

Peter was obstinate, and at last Mr. Steph-  
ens told him to make a speech himself if he  
thought one could be made.

So Bennett undertook to defend his own  
case, and did so to such good purpose that  
the doctor got into a high fury, which bub-  
bled over when Bennett said he was "no  
doctor," and he screamed out:

"Ask my patients if I am not a doctor."  
I asked my wife," retorted Peter, "and  
she said as how she thought you wasn't."  
"Ask my other patients," said Doctor  
Royston.

This seemed to be the straw that broke the  
camel's back, for Peter replied with a look  
and tone of unutterable sadness:

"That is a hard sayin', gentlemen of the jury,  
and one that requires me to die, or to have  
powers as I've heard tell ceased to be ex-  
ercised since the Apostles. Does he expect me  
to bring the Angel Gabriel down to tout his  
horn before his time and cry aloud: 'Awake,  
ye dead, and tell this court and jury your  
opinion of Royston's practice?' Am I to go  
to the lonely churchyard and rap on the  
silent tomb, and say to him as is at last at  
rest from physis and doctor bills, git up here, you,  
and state if you died a natural death, or was  
buried by some doctors? He says, ask his  
patients, and gentlemen of the jury, they  
are all dead! Where is Mrs. Bennett's man,  
Sam? Go ask the worms in the graveyard  
where he lies! Mr. Peake's woman, Sarah,  
was attended by him, and her funeral was  
attended, and he had the corpse reburied.  
Where is that likely Bill as belonged to Mr.  
Mitchell? Now in glory, a' expressin' his  
opinion on Royston's doctorin'. Where is  
that baby girl of Harry Stephens'? She are  
where the doctors cease from troublein' and  
the infants are at rest."

Peter Bennett won his case.

NEAR Erie there lives a colored person by  
the name of James Stewart, whom the com-  
munity by common consent have dubbed  
Commodore Stewart. He is a talented but  
eccentric individual, and has a weakness for  
chickens. On one occasion, being found  
near a poultry yard under suspicious cir-  
cumstances, he was interrogated rather  
sharply by the owner of the premises, as fol-  
lows:

"Well, Jim, what are you doing here?"  
"O nuffin, nuffin; jess walkin' round."  
"What do you want with my chickens?"  
"Nuffin at all. I was only lookin' at 'em;  
dey looks so nice."

The answer was both conciliatory and con-  
clusive, and would have been satisfactory had  
it not been for Jim's hat. This was a  
rather soft felt, a good deal too large for its  
wearer's head; and it seemed to have a mo-  
tion entirely unusual in hats and manifestly  
due to some remarkable cause. It seemed to  
contract and expand and move off itself, and  
clearly without Jim's volition. So the next  
inquiry was:

"What is the matter with your hat?"  
"My hat? Dat's an ole hat. I've fond of  
dat hat."

"Well, take it off and let's look at it."  
"Take off dis hat? No, sah. I'd ketch  
cold in my head, sartain. Always keep my  
hat on when I'm out o' doors."

And that with Jim was about beating a  
hasty retreat, when, at his first step, a low  
"kluk, kluk, kluk," was heard coming only  
too clearly from the region of his head gear.  
This was fatal; and Jim was stopped and  
forced to remove his hat, when a plump,  
half-grown chicken jumped out and ran  
away. The air with which the culprit gazed  
expressed a to perfection, wonder and perplexity blend-  
ed, but not a trace of guilt. Slowly he  
spoke, as though explaining the matter to  
himself, and accounting for so remarkable  
an incident:

"Well, if dat ain't the funnest ting I eber  
did see. Why, dat dar chicken must have  
clum up de leg of my pantaloon."

Dr. DOSEM, an Austin physician, was called  
on to attend old Uncle Mose who drives a  
dray.

"You have been gorging yourself with  
green watermelons for dinner," said the phy-  
sician, feeling the patient's pulse.

"How de debil did you find dat out—by  
feeling my pulses?"

"No, but by seeing the watermelon rinds  
under the bed."

Said the old man, raising himself up in bed:  
"You am de knowintest man in Austin.  
Heah, ole woman take dat ole harness from  
under de bed, or dis heah medical gentleman  
am gwine to treat me for tiffin's mule for  
dessert to settle my stomach. I ain't teched  
a watermelon in foah weeks."

A STRANGER paced gloomily up and down  
Main Street, about seven p. m., a night or

two ago, and finally stopped before a group  
of citizens.

"Are all the clothing and furnishing goods  
stores in this town closed to-night?" he  
asked.

"They are," was the reply.

"Where is the nearest town where they  
keep open during the evening?" was the in-  
quiry.

"What's yer trouble, anyhow?" asked one  
of the citizens.

"Why, ye see, my suspenders have broke  
down," said the thoughtful stranger, as he  
looked about himself on each side and moved  
down the street.

CHARITY AT THE SALON.—The Vicomte de  
R., in passing before Mlle. B., who is collect-  
ing for the Artists' Orphan Asylum, is met  
with the cry:

"Monsieur, do not forget the little or-  
phans."  
The Vicomte gives a twenty-franc piece,  
saying:

"For your beautiful eyes, mademoiselle."  
Mlle. B. takes the money; then, with a  
most ingenuous air, she says:

"Thank you for the eyes, monsieur; now  
—don't forget the little orphans."  
And the Vicomte gave another louis.

## Chaff.

A Springfield man has married a school-  
ma'am, and now calls her experience, because  
she is a dear teacher.

We don't remember who said it, but here it  
is in all its forcible purity: "Truth abides  
with that nation whose streams contain the  
fewest trout."

Nothing gives to the seven-dollar-a-week  
clerk so much the air of princely opulence  
as riding home in a hack from the depot, after  
a two weeks vacation.

"Lie still, Bridget," said Pat to his wife,  
when the burglar got into the house; "an' if  
the spalpeen finds anything, be jabbers, we'll  
get up and take it from 'em."

Mabel (to her grandpa): "And can you  
really remember George the Fourth?" Grand-  
pa: "Yes, little one; you see I am a good  
dear older than you are." Mabel: "How  
much older must I grow before I shall be  
able to remember him?"

"How far is it to Clyde?" asked a weary  
looking tramp on the towpath, of an urbane,  
the other day. "Nine miles," replied the  
other. "Nine miles?" exclaimed the tramp.  
"Are you sure?" "Well," said the sym-  
pathetic youth, "seeing you are pretty  
tired I will call it seven."

"No pa. I do not wish to marry yet.  
What I want is a man who can cook, drink,  
smoke, chew, snuff, go out at nights, gambol,  
beat, over-eat, etc., in short a man with no  
vices, and one who is always good." "My  
daughter," said Mr. Dusenberry, "you are  
but a stranger here; Heaven is your home."

They were talking of Asop's fables.  
"Asop was no fool," said young Joe, from  
Eaton, to Lavinia. Mrs. Ramsbohm enter-  
ing at the moment, overheard this, and at  
once said to her daughter: "Don't talk about  
that. At all events it was very wicked of  
him to sell his birthright for a mess of por-  
ridge."

First Russian Officer.—"Do you think the  
comedian will pass off peacefully?" Second  
ditto: "Think I am sure it will. The Czar  
was never more popular than he is at this  
moment. Why the people are ready to exalt  
him to the skies." First Officer: "I know,  
but they may do it with dynamite."—French  
Fun.

"I trust you are putting a few pennies  
aside in your savings bank," said a fond  
father to his son, who was beginning to earn  
money by doing errands and odd jobs. "Not  
any, pa. Ever since I saw you shaking out a  
dime from it I have regarded it as a blind  
puck. I have no faith in it." That ended  
the boy's catechism for that day.—Boston  
Globe.

The following is a mot credited to one of  
the recent governors of Maryland: "What a  
remarkably ugly man Mr. Blank is," said he  
to a friend and tenant of the lady. "Don't let  
any, pa. Ever since I saw you shaking out a  
dime from it I have regarded it as a blind  
puck. I have no faith in it." That ended  
the boy's catechism for that day.—Boston  
Globe.

Two countrymen came to a lawyer to con-  
sult about bringing a joint suit against a  
neighbor. The first granger began to tell  
the lawyer the cause of the trouble, embel-  
lishing it liberally. "Don't let any, pa. Ever  
since I saw you shaking out a dime from it  
I have regarded it as a blind puck. I have  
no faith in it." That ended the boy's catechism  
for that day.—Boston Globe.

It was 12 o'clock the other night when she  
saw between her hands a discolored yawn:  
"You always put me in mind of a corset-  
maker." "Why, my pe?" he replied, as he  
remained calmly oblivious to the striking of  
the clock. "Because you make such long  
stays." He was answer. He did not remain  
after that until the envious streaks did lace  
the severing east.

Just down the intervals where the brake  
ferns grow rank, she placed her easel and sat  
down to sketch from nature: "Please, ma'am,  
is that me in the picture?" "Why, yes, my  
little man, but I didn't know you were look-  
ing." "Does it fit me?" continued the boy,  
unmindful of the artist's confusion, "you've  
put me on the wrong side of the cow, and I'll  
get kicked away off the lot."

"Here's that yeast," said a little girl to  
the lady of a family which had recently moved  
into a new neighborhood. "Why couldn't you  
your mother use it?" inquired the lady.  
"Oh, we buy all our bread at the baker's."  
"Buy all your bread. Then what did you  
want with my yeast?" "Oh, ma, said she,  
couldn't think of anything she needed to  
borrow just then, and she wanted to see if  
you could be depended on in an emergency,  
so she tried you on the yeast."

"Unbidden guests are often welcomed  
when they are gone." Disease is an unbid-  
den guest which Kidney-Wort almost invari-  
ably "shows the door." Here is a case in  
point: "Mother has recovered," wrote an  
Illinois girl to her eastern relatives. "She  
took Bitters for a long time but without any  
good. So when she heard of the virtue of  
Kidney-Wort she took a box and it completely  
cured her, so that she can do as much work  
now as she could before we moved west.  
Since she got well every one about here is  
taking it."

## The Household.

## AUTUMNAL FASHIONS.

The "Great Annual Clothes Show" at  
summer resorts and watering places is over  
for the season, and from the Springs, the  
seaside and the mountains the crowd has  
surged back to town, to consider the ques-  
tion of "wherewithal shall we be clothed,"  
and to hold "dress parades" in ball  
rooms and theatres instead of upon picnic  
grounds and vine hung piazzas. The  
autumn and winter dress goods, as dis-  
played in shop windows, were never more  
beautiful than now. Plushes and velvets  
in the rich dark shades which in these  
materials are so magnificent, plain, heavy  
repped silks, brocaded silks and em-  
bossed velvets heavy enough to stand alone,  
are displayed especially to make frail  
femininity break the Tenth Command-  
ment. But for those who may only covet  
without hope of possession there are  
cashmeres and camels' hair, Chudshah  
and chevrons, standard, durable and fash-  
ionable. Velvets and velveteens are to be

very much worn this winter. A Lyons  
velvet is a robe for a duchess or a stock-  
broker's wife, but a velveteen suit is more  
easily attainable. If the "Nonpareil"  
brand is purchased, and made up the right  
way, so that the pile falls apart when  
stroked downward, instead of being matted  
together, the suit is very handsome, and  
with care will look nice for a long time.

An excellent quality can be bought at  
\$1.50. These velvet dresses are made very  
plainly. Harper's Bazar recommends a  
plain round skirt, trimmed with a box-  
plated ruche lined with silk, a short  
wrinkled apron overskirt, full straight  
back width, slightly draped, with two fans  
set in half way down the skirt to give the  
requisite fullness. A close position  
basque with cadet collar and the indispen-  
sable tight sleeves finishes the costume,  
and the only ornaments are the handsome  
buttons which close the fronts. Over  
velvet or broadened satin skirts, trimmed  
with the chevron ruche as above, are to be  
worn velvet pelisses, edged with a band of  
fur about the neck, down the fronts and  
across the side front at the bottom. Per-  
fectly plain and straight, they are very be-  
coming to slender figures, but woe to the  
stout, "dumpy" woman who ventures into  
one. The saleswoman at Butterick's  
Pattern Agency told us they are readily  
cut by a Princess wrapper pattern; the  
only alteration being the slanting away of  
the fronts to show the skirt beneath. In  
Cheviot, ladies' cloths and heavy suitings,  
the waist and sleeves only are lined; in  
cashmeres and lighter materials the entire  
garment is lined with silesia and faced  
with silk. A box-plated pinked ruche,  
with the plaits caught together to stand  
erect, is the only trimming, which follows  
the entire outline of the garment. With  
it is worn a skirt with a full ruche, and  
the trimming of the pelisse must come  
just above the skirt trimming. These  
pelisses have so far been the most popular  
new wraps; though the walking jackets are  
by no means out of favor. Braiding is a  
very fashionable ornamentation for these;  
in elaborate patterns the soutache is sewed  
on to stand on edge instead of lie flat, as  
usual; and when wide curves or straight  
lines are followed, many rows, sometimes  
five, are sewed on edge by side, flat.

Embroidered cashmere and camels'  
hair dress patterns are very handsome and  
to be much worn. They are to be had in  
all colors, the black being most expensive.  
There are nine yards of cashmere and four  
and a half yards each of wide and narrow  
embroidery. One firm here sells patterns  
as low as \$15, but a really satisfactory  
article cannot be had at less than \$30.  
Very beautiful ones are found among the  
\$40 and \$50 patterns. The material is of  
good quality and as no other trimming is  
needed, they are not expensive. A plate  
comes with each pattern, showing how  
it may be made up.

Soft woolen goods—stiff and unpliant  
fabrics are not fashionable—are made with  
single breasted basques, extending over  
the hips to meet paniers which are sewed  
on in lengthwise tucks, and then drawn  
back in full, soft, horizontal folds which  
are lost in the ample, bouffant back drapery,  
which extends almost to the foot of the  
skirt behind. A pretty trimming for the  
front of a dress is a Breton vest, laid in fine  
pleats, as many as twenty being used, to  
the top of the first dart; it is then left in a  
loft, full puff and gathered in at the neck.  
Reveries cover the edges of the vest, meet-  
ing under a cluster of loops and ends of  
ribbon at the waist line. The "cadet  
collar," the distinguishing mark of a new  
dress, is modeled after the collar of a  
military coat, the edges meeting at the  
throat and slanting back above. Sleeves  
are made very close, and are very little  
trimmed.

In colors, cardinal is somewhat "out,"  
and "terra cotta" and other "red brick  
shades" are "in." It is predicted in  
eastern fashion journals that this winter  
is to be the "reign of the blues;" certain  
it is that that color is more prominent than  
for some years. Green, in the dark  
shades, is a very stylish color, and much  
worn.

In head gear there are the large round  
hats in picturesque shapes; and the in-  
finitesimal bonnet, a mere excuse for a bit  
of beaded lace and a cluster of tips. As  
last year, plumes and feathers are the chief  
adornment, flowers are not worn this  
winter. It is impossible to get too many  
feathers upon a hat; three long plumes and  
four or four or six tips are not un-  
frequently massed upon one hat. Birds are  
much used; a feather turban formed of met-  
allic black feathers, and finished off with  
the head of the old hen which wore them in  
life is shown. A bird of Paradise forms  
part of the trimming of a handsome bon-  
net shown at Newcomb & Endicott's, the  
long curving barbs descending upon the  
shoulder of the wearer. Cocks' feathers  
are much worn, made into long drooping  
plumes, and the brilliant lustre is much  
admired.

## SURPRISES.

I have a profound respect for surprises  
of some kinds, such as a surprise con-  
tribution to some worthy person or object,  
a token of friendship, a visit from a dear  
friend, and even to surprise a hard work-  
ing, self-sacrificing minister, by paying his  
meagre salary "on time" is not objec-  
tionable, but for surprise parties, so called,  
I have a great aversion. For a large party  
of people, many of them total strangers to  
the people they propose to surprise, to ar-  
range at their own convenience to swoop  
down on an unsuspecting family, to have  
a "good time," no matter at what incon-  
venience to their hosts, is in my opinion a  
measure unwarrantable.

True there are people who always seem  
to be ready for such visitation, and when  
they are known to "like it," there can be  
no objection to the practice; but I aver  
that good manners would dictate that it be  
known such pleasure exists before the ar-  
rangements are made.

Imagine a family, in home dress, per-  
haps unusually tired by some extra work,  
or worn with want of rest, just preparing  
to retire, when with a sudden loud hall  
that will start a nervous person almost  
into spasms, one or more vehicles drive up,  
and a greater or less mass of humanity  
swarm in and take possession, perhaps pro-

pose to take up your carpets or throw your  
stoves out of doors; and if you protest suf-  
ficiently determinedly to prevent such a  
catastrophe, they will elevate noses and  
report you as a stupid old curmudgeon,  
with no accommodation or kindness about you.

"Josiah Allen's Wife" tells a whimsical  
story of being surprised while taking a  
foot bath in her kitchen. The rain pre-  
vailling that day had caused her to hang  
colored clothes in that room, so it was  
damp and parti-colored, Josiah, minus  
coat and boots, having opened the door in  
response to their knock, stood in open-  
mouthed wonder, staring at the incoming  
stream of basket-laden humans, who



